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Money
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TODAY

Pundak: Palestinian state in 3 years with Jerusalem as capital

ELDAD BECK
 PARIS

DR. Ron Pundak, a close aide to Minister Yossi Beilin and a leading negotiator of the Oslo accords, says he is "sure" that a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital will be created within three years.

In an interview with the French weekly *L'express* published yesterday, Pundak emphasized that such a scenario will become reality under two conditions: terror attacks against Israel cease and the Palestinians prove their sincerity to coexist with Israel.

Pundak, a professor at Haifa University, compared the future state to the Vatican, with its own government, administration and laws, but totally demilitarized. Pundak revealed that negotiators have examined the possibility of creating two municipalities in Jerusalem, a Palestinian one for areas with a Palestinian majority and an Israeli one including Gilo, Pisgat Ze'ev, and Ma'aleh Adumim.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres told CNN yesterday that Jerusalem will never become a dual capital, but will remain only the capital of Israel.

It is reported last night that Peres would hold a meeting with King Hussein next week in Jordan, where the two will discuss the aftermath of Grapes of Wrath. This could not be confirmed last night.

Police raid PA police station in Jerusalem

BILL HUTMAN

A POLICE station operated by the Palestinian Authority in east Jerusalem has been uncovered and two senior Palestinian security officials in the city were detained, Jerusalem police announced yesterday.

A handful of Palestinians suspected of being PA policemen were also held.

A 42-year-old Eizariya resident, who police claim runs the PA's security apparatus in east Jerusalem, was detained at the Palestinian police station on Monday. A secretary was also detained when police raided the station, which is located in Wadi Joz.

A police spokesman said the station was shut down and documents were confiscated which link the suspects with the kidnappings of several Palestinian residents suspected of criminal wrongdoing. The alleged criminals had been taken to a Palestinian prison.

(Continued on Page 4)



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Likud MK Ariel Sharon, surrounded by security personnel, attends a rally in Hebron yesterday against IDF redeployment. (Story, Page 3)

Darawshe: Peres promised to release Yassin after change in PLO Charter

DAVID MAKOVSKY

PRIME Minister Shimon Peres promised two months ago to release Hamas religious leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin if the PLO Charter was changed, MK Abdul Wahab Darawshe alleged last night, but an aide to the premier who participated in the meeting insisted that Peres only promised to consider doing so.

This official from the Prime Minister's Office said last night that as it stands now Peres has not decided to release Yassin, nor is there a decision to release him after the elections. There were hints from senior officials last night that a decision to release Yassin may be linked to information provided by Yassin on the whereabouts of Ilan Sa'adon's body. Yassin was imprisoned in 1989 for being aware that such a kidnapping was about to take place, without notifying the authorities.

The officials also hinted last night that some security officials were recommending Yassin's release, but insisted this was not a unified recommendation of the security establishment.

In an interview last night, Darawshe said that during a private

meeting he and MK Taleb a-Sanaa held with Peres two months ago, "the prime minister promised to release Sheikh Yassin if the Palestinians keep their promise to change the charter. Peres said such a move would create a new atmosphere in the country, which will allow him to release Yassin and 60 Israeli-Arab prisoners who are held largely for political offenses [such] as being members of Fatah." Darawshe said he and other Arab MKs are scheduled to meet with Peres on Sunday and he will raise the matter of releasing Yassin.

"The PLO changed the charter. Now Israel must keep its side of the bargain, and release Yassin immediately and not wait until after the elections," he said.

Speculation about Yassin's release has grown due to a variety of factors, including the courting of the Arab vote.

While acknowledging Peres is concerned with obtaining the Israeli-Arab vote, Darawshe insisted, "we are not in anybody's pocket" and again reiterated threats

that Israeli Arabs would withhold votes from Peres if he doesn't satisfy their demands.

In an interview initiated by Channel 1 a few days ago, Yassin expressed de facto recognition for the Palestinian Authority. Security sources said last night that Hamas issued a statement from abroad after the interview saying Yassin's statements would only be credible if made while not being held by Israel.

If indeed Yassin recognizes the

PA's legitimacy once out of prison, this could further strengthen PA Chairman Yasser Arafat's hand.

Arafat has repeatedly asked Peres to release Yassin. According to sources, Arafat's efforts to curb Hamas terrorism, while at the same time officials say, underscore that the PA leader is not anti-Islamic. In addition, there are constant concerns about Yassin's health, and there is fear that if his health deteriorates, there would be an outbreak of terrorism.

UN: Kana attack was deliberate

LIAT COLLINS and news agencies

THE United Nations said yesterday it was unlikely Israel's shelling of a UN base in southern Lebanon was the result of technical errors, as Israel contended, but this could not be completely ruled out.

"While the possibility cannot be ruled out completely, it is unlikely that the shelling of the United Nations compound was the result of gross technical and/or procedural errors," the report said.

Foreign Minister Ehud Barak earlier told UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali yesterday that the IDF's relationship with the UN in Lebanon would be damaged if the UN report blamed Israel for deliberately shelling the Kana camp.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres accused critics of forgetting that the IDF troops who shelled Kana were defending themselves from Hizbullah fighters.

"It's already forgotten what happened. What happened is that Hizbullah launched an aggressive initiative firing Katyushas, sending suicide attackers, sending a hang glider with explosives, firing at Israeli army positions day after day after day," Peres said on Army Radio yesterday.

"We waited, we spoke with the Americans, we spoke with the Syrians. It didn't help and afterward we sent units to prevent the firing of Katyushas. When this unit was attacked, it had a right to defend itself," Peres said.

"I think it was a scandal that Hizbullah men were permitted into the camp without letting us know about it," Peres said.

IDF Chief of Staff Lt-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, following an appearance before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee yesterday, told reporters that "only a twisted mind could believe Israel set out to deliberately fire on the UN camp at Kana."

Shahak said the Dutch UN officer investigating the incident appeared to believe Israel had something to hide, but this misconception arose from the different starting points of the investigations. Whereas Israel's aim was to find out how such a mistake came about on the understanding it was unintentional, the UN's starting point was to find out why Israel fired on the camp.

Shahak also related to the film of a drone (pilotless plane) shown flying above the camp. He said many drones had been used in southern Lebanon during the campaign, but none were over the camp before the incident. He said this is the answer the IDF originally gave the UN.

After evidence that a drone had been seen above Kana, the IDF carried out another investigation which showed that a pilotless plane had flown there after the bombardment, when Israel realized that something was wrong and sent the drone as part of the investigation.

"The conclusions reached and hints made by the UN are untrue and very incorrect," Shahak told the committee according to an official briefing.

A senior IDF intelligence officer told the committee that Syria ordered Ahmed Jibril to pass on

(Continued on Page 4)

TV election campaign ads begin today

SARAH HONIG and MICHAL YUDELMAN

THE election campaigns switch into high gear today with the disappearance from regular radio and TV newscasts of all candidates and the official launching of political propaganda broadcasts on television.

The broadcasts will appear on Channel 1 at 8:40 p.m. and on Channel 2 at 10:30 p.m. For half an hour, viewers will be able to sample a preview of coming attractions for the next three weeks.

The television broadcasts are aimed in particular at the "floating" voters, who are still amenable to influence. They amount to no more than 2% to 3% of voters, but even this could be crucial.

Though considerable sums have been spent on the productions, the parties admit that the effectiveness of TV campaigning may be far lower than in previous campaigns, when the monopoly of Channel 1 and the absence of alternative cable programming made viewers a captive audience.

The Likud yesterday showed reporters some of what it had been putting together at the Neveh Ilan studios near Jerusalem. Eyal Arad, one of the party's strategists, said that in contrast to previous years, the Likud will opt for short, fast-paced spots, as seen in American campaigns.

In one such ad, Peres is described as "detached from reality when he depends on Arafat." He is shown walking hand in hand

with Arafat and smiling broadly. "Such a team poses a danger," viewers are told.

Other clips will feature disenchanted Labor Party and Meretz supporters who have decided to vote for the Likud's Binyamin Netanyahu for prime minister.

MK Dan Meridor, who heads the Likud strategy team, said his party "will concentrate on our own message and not get sidetracked by reacting to Labor provocations. They will not dictate our agenda."

The late Yitzhak Rabin, Prime Minister Shimon Peres, and hundreds of youngsters will be the main figures in Labor's television broadcasts.

Labor is planning a sharp attack on Netanyahu, which will include negative statements about him by candidates on his list.

Footage of Rabin and Peres will also be broadcast, to remind voters that Peres is the heir to Rabin's legacy and is continuing his peace policy.

The broadcasts show Peres surrounded by hundreds of youths singing one of the campaign jingles - "We are with you" - and hugging and kissing him. The clips are intended partly as an answer to the issue raised by the Likud's campaign about Peres' advanced age, compared to Netanyahu.

Labor's information campaign staff has also collected hundreds of

(Continued on Page 9)

With a thousand miles of unspoilt Atlantic coastline to choose from, there's always plenty of room on a Portuguese beach - and plenty of sunshine, too. But there's much more than this to the perfect holiday. Which is why you'll certainly relish the famous wines and delicious regional cuisines of Portugal - just as you'll enjoy the opportunity to sample the best in European and international shopping. For family holidays, we have a wide range of sports and leisure activities - and for overseas conventions, we have fully equipped congress centres in all parts of the country. And some splendid casinos. And no matter where you go, you'll discover that hospitality is a Portuguese tradition. So whether you choose to stay in a modern five-star hotel or an exclusive and historic "Pousada", you can be sure of a friendly welcome and a high standard of personal service. And a room that's even more comfortable than that towel on the beach.

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Cease-fire watch group to meet in US on Friday

THE first meeting of the group monitoring the Operation Grapes of Wrath cease-fire will take place here on Friday, a US official said yesterday.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Ehud Barak is to discuss increased security and counterterrorism cooperation in a meeting this morning with Secretary of State Warren Christopher that follows up the agreement signed here last week by President Clinton and Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

Barak will also meet with Omani Foreign Minister Yousef Bin-Alawi before returning home.

The specific framework, base, and composition of the monitoring group has not yet been decided and will be discussed when the group convenes, the US official said.

US special Middle East coordinator Dennis Ross will chair Friday's meeting, the official said. It is unclear whether Israel will be represented by ambassador Itamar Rabinovich and/or peace team chief Uri Savir, who is

HILLEL KUTTNER
WASHINGTON

scheduled to be in Washington to address a Jewish forum the same day.

The cease-fire brokered by Christopher two weeks ago calls for a panel consisting of the US, France, Israel, Syria, and Lebanon to handle complaints and possible violations of the agreement.

"We believe we should have a mechanism that is efficient and not overly top-heavy in terms of personnel to help sustain the cease-fire," the US official said.

Assistant Secretary of State for Near East Affairs Robert Pelletreau said yesterday that the group is meant to "investigate complaints and make recommendations" and would provide "an alternative to [an] escalation of fighting."

Meanwhile, State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns criticized the "unreality" of the UN's handling of the April 25 Kana bombing

and commended Israel's candor in "taking responsibility" for the shelling of the UN base that killed more than 100 Lebanese refugees.

"Where is Hizbullah? Have they spoken out? Is the UN going to ask Hizbullah for its side of the story? ... Israel has taken its responsibility here. Israel has stood up and been criticized and taken a hit. Where is Hizbullah on this?" Burns asked.

He added that he expects Syria "will demonstrate its interest in the peace process by its actions" in the monitoring group and the eventual resumption of peace negotiations.

David Rudge adds:

Syria and Lebanon have recommended that UNIFIL's headquarters in Nakoura, inside the security zone, be the monitoring group's base, according to UNIFIL spokesman Timur Goksel.

"There have been media reports of some thinking along those lines on the Lebanese-Syrian side, but we have not received any official communication on the matter from any of the parties," Goksel said.



A 42-year-old Kizariya resident (center), who police claim runs the PA's security apparatus in eastern Jerusalem, is brought to court yesterday for a remand hearing. (Brian Hessler)

Israel: PA must halt work on airport

JON IMMANUEL

ISRAEL told the Palestinian Authority yesterday that it could not continue work on building an airport at Rafah, in Gaza, until security arrangements have been worked out.

Government coordinator Maj.-Gen. Oren Shahor told PA Planning Minister Nabil Shaath at a meeting in Jerusalem that the security arrangements would dictate the layout of the airport and must be completed before the airport is constructed.

Everybody arriving in or departing from Gaza through the airport will have to go through Israeli security.

Shlomo Dror, Shahor's spokesman, said Shahor and Shaath agreed to set up three sub-committees on security, aviation and civil affairs.

Palestinians have almost finished preliminary work on the runway, which was moved 10 degrees in February after Israel complained that it jutted onto land under Israel's exclusive security control.

However, Israel wants the customs terminal built partially on its security strip to facilitate Israeli security inspections.

Meanwhile, Palestinian police yesterday handed Israel 30 kilograms of explosives, and belts to hold them, assembled for use by suicide bombers. The material was found by police in recent searches in Gaza.

PA president Yasser Arafat is to present his new cabinet, expected to consist of up to 25 members, today at a meeting of the 88-member Palestinian council in Rafah.

Palestinian commentators said no surprises concerning appointments are expected, but that a moderate Islamic figure may be appointed, as well as one member of the People's Party (former communists), which opposes the Cairo accords. This will not be party leader Suleiman Najab, as previously thought, who is to remain a member of the PLO executive committee.

Under the terms of the Palestinian election law, Arafat may choose 20 percent of his ministers from outside the council.

Bir Zeit University, where Hamas won the student leadership last year, is due to have student elections today. The result could return Fatah to power, continuing Hamas's reversal of fortune. In Kalkilya, protests continued for a second day yesterday against a security wall which Kalkilyans claim has been built on Palestinian land and limits their freedom of movement.

Youths threw stones at soldiers, who responded with rubber bullets and tear gas. Seven were injured when soldiers fired rubber bullets and tear gas on Monday.

In Bethlehem, a protest against land expropriation, and a wall which has narrowed the road by Rachel's Tomb causing a bottleneck on the only exit to Jerusalem, was joined by Leila Khaled, the plane hijacker of the 1970s, who encouraged protesters to shout anti-Israel slogans. Khaled was permitted entry to Palestinian autonomous areas last month as a member of the Palestinian National Council.

Swiss bank investigation wrongly tarnishes company which aided Jews

MARILYN HENRY
NEW YORK

AN American investigation into whether Swiss banks misappropriated Jewish assets during World War II has tarnished a Geneva company whose chairman, by all accounts, used his considerable contacts in Europe to aid Jews during the Holocaust.

It is "unjust" that the company, Societe Generale de Surveillance, has become a symbol of Swiss banks' culpability, sources said.

"SGS tried to help Jews," said Gerhart Riegner, the longtime head of the Geneva office of the World Jewish Congress, who in August 1942 warned the West about Hitler's plan for the "Final Solution."

"It is absolutely false to suggest that the company would retain any assets of those persecuted by the Nazis," SGS spokesman Friedrich Sauerlander said yesterday.

In addition to his clandestine efforts to save Jewish assets, then

SGS chairman Jacques Salomonowitz, a Latvia-born Jew, was a financial backer of the WJC.

Riegner, SGS, and numerous sources now find themselves in a delicate position. They expressed grave concerns that by defending SGS, they could be undermining the legitimate, long-sought investigation of dormant Jewish assets in the Swiss banks.

That investigation has been energized by a cache of US intelligence material from Operation Safe Haven, the code name for a US Treasury, Justice, and State Departments effort 50 years ago to find Nazi assets and loot.

One of the first documents made public focuses on SGS. Dated July 12, 1945, the document refers to 182 accounts held by SGS, thought to be worth \$2 million at the time.

"[This SGS document] is vital to understanding the issue of Holocaust assets in Swiss banks," New York Senator Al D'Amato told the Senate in March, as he revealed material from the archives.

The evidence in this document must be compared to Swiss bankers' declarations that they had no real assets in their possession, D'Amato said.

However, SGS is neither a bank nor a financial institution. It provides inspection and verification services for freight and other items in over 140 countries, including Israel, Sauerlander said.

And "contrary to the Swiss banks, this firm was trying to be helpful" during the war, said Riegner.

The Safe Haven document refers to SGS accounts in 1945.

A small, but important step

COMMENT
JON IMMANUEL

THE Palestinian Covenant continues to arouse controversy. Twenty eight Israeli academics signed a newspaper advertisement which appeared yesterday disputing claims that the covenant had not yet been canceled.

"Due to announcements and commentaries suggesting fraud by the Palestinian National Council at its session of 24.4.96 on the issue of amending the Palestinian National Charter, we the undersigned - university teachers and instructors in Middle East Studies - would like to place matters in perspective."

The advertisement states that the PNC's decision "received by a great majority, with wide public support and with sharp opposition from radical PLO elements, is an important step in the new formulation of the covenant."

However, the ad will hardly put the issue to rest because it does not address the allegations that a mere step, however important, is not the entire journey and is therefore a fraud if presented as such.

Allegations of fraud by some Israeli commentators have focused on three points: The language of the decision could be taken to indicate an intention to cancel the offending articles in the future, rather than immediately. The resolution that was passed does not specify the precise articles to be changed. The resolution does not give a deadline for producing a new charter.

However, the Arabic words used in the resolution are present tense, but can also refer to the future. And, even if it did refer to the future, the decision to cancel the offending articles is still binding.

Since only the PNC as a voting body can take the decision to cancel its charter, the articles must be considered canceled since the resolution has been

passed. Otherwise, the resolution would mean that the PNC only voted to allow itself to vote all over again, and that would be nonsense.

Though the resolution does not enumerate the canceled articles, neither the Oslo accords nor the letters of mutual recognition enumerate which of the 33 articles are to be canceled. They presumably could and perhaps should have done so, but they don't.

In addition, the Oslo accords and the letters of recognition do not demand that the Palestinians produce a new charter to replace the old one, so there can be no time-limit on producing it, although the chairman of the legal committee which the PNC empowered to devise a new charter (not cancel the articles in the old one) said it will be ready in three months.

Until a new charter is produced and voted on, there is room for ambiguity, but that ambiguity stems from the Oslo accords themselves and will be cleared up if and when the new charter is produced.

Both sides are right in saying that the river which was supposed to be crossed in one leap is being crossed in two because an unexpected rock is serving as a stepping stone. Still, it is a crucial step because the PLO is not on firm ground. It cannot balance itself long on this narrow rock without a new charter, and it cannot realistically jump backwards.

It is true that in three years, after a Palestinian state might have been created, the PNC could vote to reverse this decision by a two-thirds majority (unless the new charter says this decision is irreversible). But that, like the possibility of a new charter that will include articles that directly or by implication will still call for Israel's destruction, is a statistical improbability.

Hizbullah calls for total boycott on US goods

BEIRUT (AP) - Under big banners saying "Death to America" and "Death to Israel," Hizbullah leaders blamed the United States yesterday for Israel's 16-day operation in Lebanon and called for a boycott of US goods.

"Try to boycott as much as you can American goods. Buy instead European, Japanese, Chinese or any goods. This might force America to reconsider its [Middle East] policy," Sheikh Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, spiritual guide of the Hizbullah told a mass rally in south Beirut.

"There are people who shout anti-American slogans while they carry packs of Marlboro cigarettes in their pockets," he said. "We have to use economic weapons against America."

Hizbullah's secretary-general, Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah, also addressed the rally, saying Israel's assault had failed to achieve its objective of destroying Hizbullah.

"They came to Lebanon to strike the resistance," Nasrallah said. "This is the objective of the aggression. Had this objective been achieved, Lebanon would have been forced to unilaterally sign a peace treaty [with Israel] and Syria would have been isolated so that America and Israel could impose their terms [for peace]."

Kiryat Shmona residents demonstrate

Hundreds of Kiryat Shmona residents demonstrated against the government last night during a celebration sponsored by the municipality to make up for the missed Independence Day festivities.

Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer attended, but Prime Minister Shimon Peres, who was scheduled to attend, canceled. The residents carried black flags and signs that read "Kiryat Shmona in darkness."

Bezeq cuts off PA's overseas service after NIS 683,000 check bounces

JUDY SIEGEL

AT 6 p.m. yesterday, Bezeq cut off all overseas calls from the autonomous areas and the broadcasting link between Palestinian Radio studios in Jericho and the broadcasting station in Ramallah. The action was taken after non-payment of debts by the Palestinian Authority and a check for NIS 683,000 from the Palestinian Broadcasting Authority bounced.

Bezeq said last night that the PA owes it a total of NIS 28.7 million for telecommunications services, including air time for cellular phone calls and directly dialed and operator-assisted (IDD) overseas calls. An advance of NIS 5 million that the PA had promised to send to Bezeq by April 23 was not paid. Because of a Moslem holiday on that date, Bezeq agreed to an extension till Monday, but no payment had been received by yesterday.

Bezeq said that two weeks ago it had reached agreements with Muhammed Rashid, Yasser Arafat's economic adviser and

head of the Palestinian telecommunications unit, about how the debt would be calculated.

Director-General Yitzhak Kaul said yesterday that the company had demonstrated a great deal of patience for the Palestinians, but it could no longer absorb the growing losses. Bezeq is required to pay foreign telecommunications companies high fees for its phone traffic abroad, he explained, adding, "as a result, we are forced to cut off outgoing overseas calls and the broadcasting linkup."

ARRIVALS

Anti-Defamation League's National Leadership Mission to Israel led by David Strasser, National Chairman, and Abraham Foxman, National Director.

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

THE WEEKLY MEETING of the English-speaking Jerusalem Rotary Club will take place today at 1:00 p.m. at the YMCA, King David Street. Presentation by study exchange groups from Brazil and Japan.

THE YELLOW STOCKING by Lotte Eisenberg

Did Yehudi Menuhin really stand on his head for Ben Gurion? Who made a luncheon for 40 cardinals and got the St. Louis Cardinals instead? When did Weizman visit Ben Gurion daily? "the manager of a hotel has to be discreet." - Now she reveals all!

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With the deepest sorrow we announce the passing of our beloved husband and father

BERNARD AARONSON

The funeral took place in Jerusalem yesterday, May 7, 1996.

Shiva at Rehov Harav Berlin 22, Jerusalem.

Deeply mourned by his wife: Esme Hadassa his son and daughter-in-law: Raphael Z. and Hagit his daughter and son-in-law: Chara and Chaim Newman his brother: Bill Aaronson his grandchildren and great-grandchildren

With deep sorrow we mourn the passing of **JEANNETTE ROZENBLUM** נ"ל nee Galst

The funeral took place in Jerusalem.

Mourning by: Her husband, Marc Rozenblum The Rozenblum, Hanau and Sherman families

Shiva is being observed until Monday morning (May 13) at 22 Rehov Ahad Ha'am, Jerusalem. Shaharit: 6:30 a.m. Minha: 7:15 p.m.

On the fourth anniversary of the death of our dearest **EIRAN SOBELMAN** י"ד

who fell in the battle against terrorism, a memorial service will be held at the Segula Military Cemetery, Petah Tikva, on Thursday, May 9, 1996 (20 Iyar 5756), at 5:00 p.m.

We shall leave from 3 Rehov Prof. Shor, Petah Tikva, at 4:30 p.m.

The Family

With deep sorrow, we announce the passing of our wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother **DINA ELZAS-LEVISON** י"ד

The funeral took place on Tuesday, May 7, 1996, at Har Hamenuhot, Givat Shaul, Jerusalem.

Mourning by: Her daughter: Channah Vedder and family Her son: Arjeh Elzas and family Her daughter: Hadas Polak and family grandchildren and great-grandchildren

World Union for Progressive Judaism Israel Movement for Progressive Judaism Beit Shmuel Israel Religious Action Center

express deep sympathy to the **Scheuer Family** on the untimely passing of

RICHARD J. SCHEUER, Jr. May His Memory Be For a Blessing

HEBREW UNION COLLEGE - JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGION
The President, Chancellor, Board of Governors, Administration, Faculty and Students record with deepest sorrow the untimely and tragic death of

RICHARD J. SCHEUER, Jr.

Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to his wife, Sylvia, his children, Benjamin, Adam and Simon, to his loving parents, Joan and Richard J. Scheuer, to his sister, Marian, and his brothers, Daniel and Jonathan.

His memory will be a blessing, for he was a blessing.

Rabbi Sheldon Zimmerman, President Prof. Alfred Gottschalk, Chancellor Prof. Paul M. Steinberg, Vice President

Mr. Stanley P. Gold, Chairman of the Board Dr. S. Zaiman Abramov, Chair, Jerusalem Overseers Prof. Michael L. Klein, Dean, Jerusalem

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בנימין נתניהו

Likud will talk with PA, end settlement freeze

A POSSIBLE new Likud government will respect the international agreements contracted by its predecessor, but will act "to minimize the dangers inherent in these agreements to Israel's future and security," says the Likud platform, released for publication last night.

The platform opens with a declaration that "the right of the Jewish people to the Land of Israel is eternal and inalienable, as is the Jewish people's right to security and peace. Zionism is the national liberation movement of the Jewish people and fulfillment of Zionist goals will be given top priority. Immigration to Israel will be increased, settlement enhanced and the decision to freeze settlements will be rescinded."

Peace, according to the opening, "will become a central objective for the government and it will negotiate directly with Arab states to achieve peace." But security is judged to be "the basis without which a lasting peace in this region is not possible. Israel will make certain that security is maintained as a primary condition for any peace arrangement."

A Likud government, according

SARAH HONIG

to the platform, "will respect international agreements, will continue the diplomatic process in quest of a just and lasting peace, will recognize facts created on the ground by previous agreements, and will strive to minimize the dangers inherent in these agreements to Israel's future and security."

"Israel will negotiate with the Palestinian Authority to achieve a final status agreement on condition that the PA fully lives up to all of its undertakings and, in particular, will nullify completely and unequivocally those clauses of the Palestinian covenant calling for Israel's destruction, will prevent terrorism and will put an end to anti-Israeli incitement," the platform says.

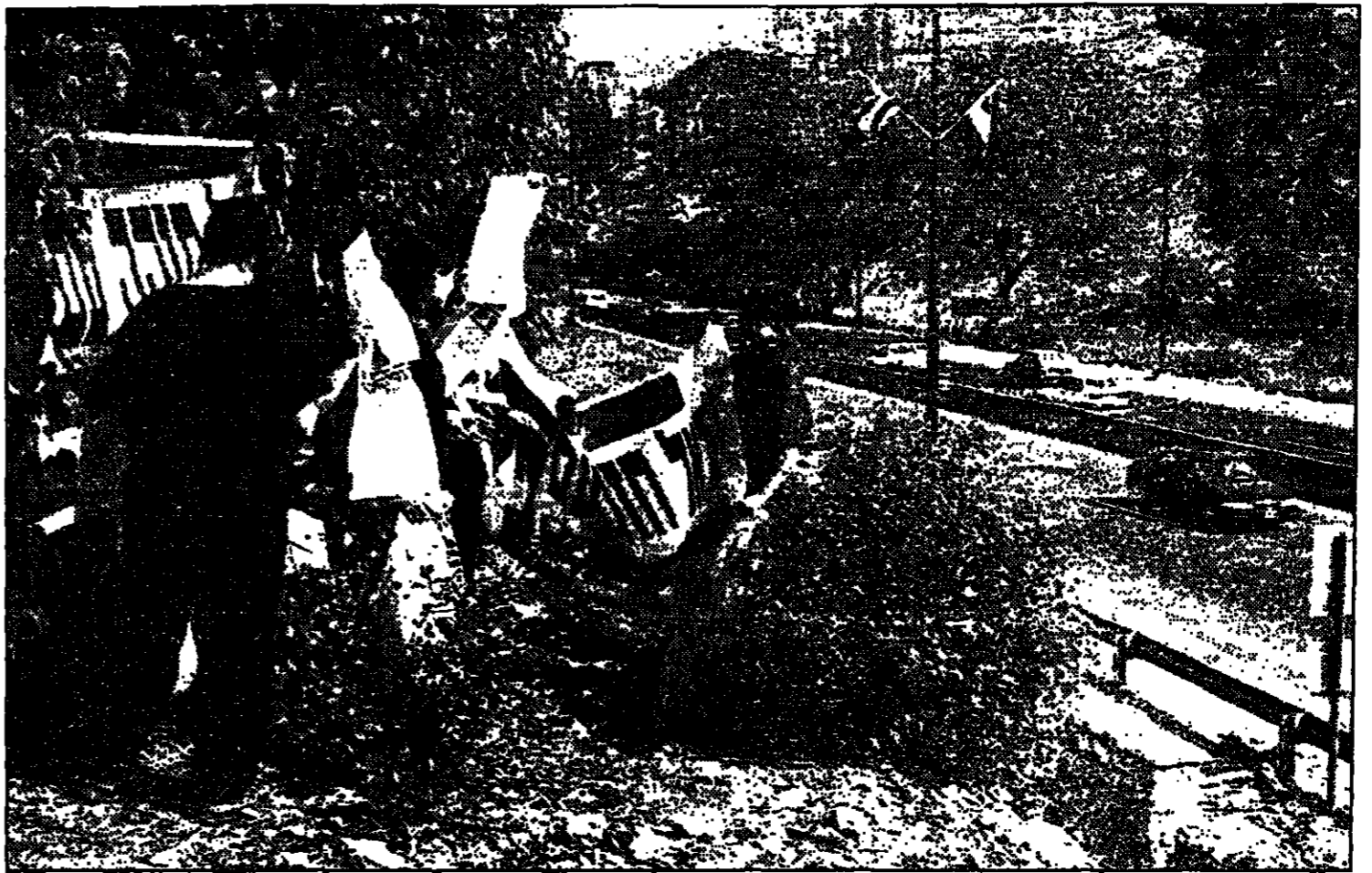
Likud information drive head MK Limor Livnat said yesterday that "should Arafat and the PA indeed fully live up to their part of the bargain, we will deal with him and meet with him."

MK Eilahu Ben-Elissar, who heads the Likud platform committee, said last night that "a Likud government will make sure that

Geza and Nablus are not turned into safe havens for terrorists. Our aim will not be to retake these cities, but we reserve the freedom to send the IDF in and act, should the need arise, and once our mission is accomplished we will pull out."

Other points in the platform include:

- The government will enable Palestinians to freely run their own affairs in the framework of an autonomy. But foreign relations, security and those matters which require coordination will remain under Israel's control.
- The government will oppose the creation of an independent Palestinian state.
- Employment opportunities will be developed in the PA areas to reduce the number of Palestinians working in Israel. The government will seek to limit Israel's dependence on foreign labor.
- Jerusalem, united and indivisible, is Israel's capital. The government will outlaw activity to undermine the status of Jerusalem as Israel's capital. PLO and PA institutions in Jerusalem will be closed, including Orient House.



Youths from the Nature Reserves Authority pick up signs at Sha'ar Hagai as part of a nationwide effort to keep the election campaign clean. (Isaac Elharar/Scoop 80)

Peres may appoint Arab minister if he forms next government

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

IF Prime Minister Shimon Peres wins the elections, he will consider appointing an Arab minister to his cabinet. Peres said after a meeting with Beduin party members yesterday.

Peres also said that if he forms the next government, he will propose the construction of five to seven Beduin towns and implement a master plan for 25 Beduin villages in the North.

These plans are intended to solve housing problems and improve the infrastructure in the Beduin sector until the year 2020. Peres is scheduled to meet with the

leaders of the Arab parties on Sunday in an effort to secure their support in the elections.

Peres yesterday convened Labor MKs, ministers, and campaign heads for a pep talk as the party enters the last campaign lap. He called on them to increase their efforts - and especially their presence on the streets - to create an atmosphere conducive to Labor's victory in the elections.

Earlier yesterday morning, Peres met the

leaders of Netivot Shalom, a moderate religious-Zionist movement which supports the peace process.

Movement secretary Yitzhak Frankenthal would not say whether the movement was right wing or left wing, noting "these terms have become somewhat confused these days. It's a movement which strongly supports the peace process."

Professor Uri Simon said the visit was intended to express "the support of religious Zionism for Peres. He is the candidate we prefer as prime minister."

Sharon: Thousands of Jews will live in Hebron

HERB KEINON

WITH the government still debating when exactly the IDF will re-deploy in Hebron, Likud MK Ariel Sharon told thousands of people at a rally there yesterday that he envisions thousands of Jews living in the city well into the future.

Sharon said Israel must continue to exert control over much of Hebron, from Tel Rumaida to Beit Hadassah, Beit Romano, the Machpela Cave and Kiryat Arba.

"Just as Jews lived here for 4,000 years, many thousands of Jews will live here for the next thousand years," Sharon said. "I believe the days will come when the Jewish settlement will continue to grow and prosper in Hebron."

After the rally held at the Avra-

ham Avimur complex, hundreds of people walked to the tomb of Utniel Ben Kenaz in southern Hebron. Settlement officials said yesterday was the first time in months the IDF allowed Jews to enter the tomb of Utniel Ben Kenaz, who was the first of the biblical judges. Under the Oslo 2 agreements, control of this tomb will be transferred to the Palestinian Authority.

Agudat Yisrael offers cheap flights for supporters

HERB KEINON

AGUDAT Yisrael is sponsoring low-priced airline tickets to bring eligible voters living in the US and Europe here in order to vote for the United Torah Judaism party in the upcoming elections.

An advertisement that appeared in the Israeli dailies *Ha-moadon* and *Yated Ne'eman* addresses "Israeli citizens living abroad, who are eligible to vote."

The advertisement says Agudat Yisrael offices in the US, England, Belgium and Switzerland are equipped to determine whether one is eligible to vote.

"Friend and supporter," the ad reads, "if you have a relative or acquaintance who is an Israeli citizen currently abroad, you should contact him immediately and tell him about this advertisement."

The advertisement calls on supporters to make sure that their identification cards are in "proper order," and says that "special cheap flights from the US and Europe to Israel are being organized for supporters and members of Agudat Yisrael who are planning to come to Israel for Shavuot." Shavuot this year is just five days before the elections.

The advertisement did not give a price for the flights, but said further information will follow.

Rabbis will pray for those who support UTJ

HERB KEINON

TWENTY-eight of the country's leading rabbi formally kicked off United Torah Judaism's election campaign with a call in the Israeli press to support the party, saying that they pray those who support only United Torah Judaism will be blessed with prosperity and long life.

The wording was apparently meant to circumvent the recent ruling forbidding promises of blessings in exchange for support.

The rabbis, many of whom are members of Degel Hatorah or Agudat Yisrael's council of sages, refrained from calling upon supporters to vote for one or the other prime ministerial candidates. The feeling in the haredi community is that if such a call is made, it will be only after Shavuot, five days before the elections.

At the same time, the party ran advertisements in the haredi press in which it derogatorily called the present government the "leftist government."

"The holy places are ours forever," the ad read. "Eretz Yisrael is full of holy sites that serve as places of worship for hundreds of thousands of Jews from Israel and the Diaspora

who come to pour out their entreaties at the holy sites."

"Just four months ago there was a struggle to ensure access to Rachel's Tomb in Bethlehem," the ad continued. "Today there is another struggle, to ensure the continuation of prayers in the tombs of the patriarchs in Hebron following the agreements of the leftist government and its partners."

The advertisement ends with the phrase, "We are obligated to save Israel from their hands."

Relations with the "leftist government" were not made any easier by remarks attributed to Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer in which he said that "we will settle accounts with the haredim after the elections" because of their support for Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu. The remarks continued to raise haredi ire yesterday, and *Yated Ne'eman*, the mouthpiece of Degel Hatorah, ran a front page article blasting Ben-Eliezer for the comments.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Yisrael Ba'aliya, Third Way sign vote deal
Yisrael Ba'aliya leader Natan Sharansky and Third Way leader Avigdor Kahalani signed a surplus vote agreement, as well as an agreement to cooperate during and after the election campaign.

Sharansky and Kahalani expressed their hope that Yisrael Ba'aliya and the Third Way will constitute the center bloc in the next knesset.

Sharansky explained that the signing ceremony was held in his party's protest caravan, which is currently touring the country to underline the housing crisis for new immigrants.

Jerusalem Post Staff

Labor computer identifies probable voters

Labor has a computer program to trace voters who are more likely to support Prime Minister Shimon Peres in large numbers. These include voters aged 18 to 25 and over 60, and new immigrants. Labor has sent all potential voters personal letters urging them to vote. On election day itself, staff members will check who has already voted and which voters need encouragement to come to the polls.

Michal Yudelman

Baram doing well after operation

Tourism Minister Uzi Baram underwent a successful catheterization and angioplasty to expand narrowed coronary arteries in his heart yesterday at Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Hospital. Baram, who had been admitted to the hospital after complaining of weakness, will be discharged in a few days. A hospital spokeswoman said he had not suffered a heart attack and that the angioplasty was a preventive measure.

Judy Siegel

'Under certain circumstances broadcast ban may be lifted'

LIAT COLLINS

THE ban on television and radio appearances for MKs may be eased under exceptional circumstances, the Central Elections Committee decided yesterday. An example would be in the event of a terror attack.

The pre-election broadcasting blackout for MKs and Knesset candidates begins today.

CEC chairman Justice Theodor Orr agreed with Israel Broadcasting Authority director Mordechai Kirschenbaum and IBA legal adviser Amit Schechter, who submitted the request for the

change in the ruling.

Schechter discovered the loophole which could ease the ban. The law bans broadcasting "events" involving MKs and candidates, but Schechter successfully claimed this refers only to events created for election propaganda.

If a non-initiated event occurs, which demands the response of government members and MKs, this could now be broadcast, unlike in previous years.

The issue of what defines an "exceptional event" has not yet been addressed.

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Sunday June 9
ANCIENT SYNAGOGUES OF GALILEE
After Jerusalem was destroyed in 70 CE, Jewish leaders fled to Eretz Yehuda and, after the Bar Kochba rebellion, to Galilee, where Jewish life began to flourish again. The tour leaves from Jerusalem, and picks up in Tel Aviv. Then we visit the Arbel, Tiberias, Kfar Nahum, and Peki'in. The tour guide is Yoni Shapiro, and the cost, which includes entrance to all sites, a full lunch, and transportation in air-conditioned coaches, is NIS170.

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STATE OF ISRAEL
The Central Elections Committee for the Fourteenth Knesset and for Prime Minister

PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTER
The Central Elections Committee is operating a telephone information center for inquiries regarding voting rights and the location of voting stations:

- From May 15, 1996 to May 16, 1996, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- From May 19, 1996 to May 22, 1996, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- From May 26, 1996 to May 27, 1996, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- On May 28, 1996, from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m.
- On May 29, 1996, ELECTION DAY, from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

To check your voting rights call:

- 177-022-0280 in Hebrew
- 177-022-0281 in Russian
- 177-022-0282 in Arabic
- 177-022-0283 in Amharic

Give your name and ID number and you will receive the exact address of your voting station.

For the Hard of Hearing - inquiries may be made by fax - 03-5184080 (include full name, ID number and fax number or address for replies).

ELECTIONS 1996

A DEBATE IN ENGLISH

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DAN MERIDOR MK (Likud)

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Russia reportedly set to expel 9 British diplomats

DAVE CARPENTER
MOSCOW

IN what is fast becoming the biggest East-West espionage case since the end of the Cold War, Russian intelligence officials yesterday reportedly gave Britain a list of nine "career spies" to be expelled.

London warned it was prepared to strike back hard, and suggested that campaign-year gamesmanship was behind what it called Moscow's unjustified stance.

A day after the spy flap surfaced with the announcement that a Russian had been arrested while giving secret information to British agents, there was a flurry of diplomatic activity but still no firm word on expulsions.

Russia's counter-intelligence service presented the British ambassador, Sir Andrew Wood, with a list and detailed explanation of nine diplomats' alleged espionage contacts, according to the ITAR-Tass news agency.

"The talk is about career spies, not about diplomats," said Alexander Zdanovich, spokesman for Russia's Federal Security Service (FSB), adding that there was "irrefutable proof" of the diplomats' spying activities.

Meanwhile, a rift appeared to be developing between the Foreign Ministry, which tried to downplay the incident, and the FSB.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Grigory Karasin said "unnecessarily emotional and hasty decisions" should be avoided at all costs. In London, the Russian Embassy virtually repeated his statement, voicing concern about a possible "negative effect on state relationships between Russia and Britain."

Karasin would not confirm that nine diplomats were involved, and it was not clear if Moscow might pull back from its promise

of several expulsions.

But Zdanovich insisted the expulsions must not be linked to bilateral ties.

"There are no grounds to link specific actions of counter-intelligence or intelligence services with the general contents and the development of bilateral relations," he said.

The British, American and German ambassadors huddled in Britain's embassy in a meeting presumed to have focused on a Western response to Moscow's allegations. Later, Wood met with Russian Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov.

"We had a private meeting," was all Wood said outside the

Foreign Ministry in Moscow.

The case surfaced Monday when the FSB said its agents had arrested a government employee who had confessed to passing secret information of "a political, defense and strategic nature" to British agents.

The FSB, the main successor to the KGB, said the man has been formally charged with treason "in the form of espionage," which is punishable by death.

The agency's statement that nine British "intelligence agents" who work for the embassy would be expelled prompted an angry response from Britain and made a front-page splash yesterday in newspapers in both countries.

"This is an unprecedented scandal in the new post-Soviet history of Russia," said the daily *Segodnya*.

"Britain and Russia Clash Over Spies," London's *Daily Telegraph* chimed in.

British Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind said allegations that the nine were involved in "improper activities" — a diplomatic term for spying — were totally unjustified.

"If action is taken by the Russians, then that will inevitably create... the need for a significant response," he said in Birmingham, England.

Some observers suggested that Moscow's action was a campaign ploy by Boris Yeltsin's government aimed at seeking support from hard-line voters in the June 16 presidential election. (AP)

Scientist arrested for making and smuggling nuclear materials

KRASNOYARSK, Russia (AP) — Security agents arrested a scientist suspected of smuggling out of Russia more than a kilogram of materials that could be used for nuclear weapons production, officials said yesterday.

"It was not uranium, plutonium or something like that," said Anatoly Samkov, the head of the Krasnoyarsk regional department of Russia's Federal Security Service (FSB).

Samkov told the Interfax news agency that the material in question could be used for producing components of nuclear weapons, such as "coating or tubes."

He did not elaborate, but said the materials were banned for exports under Russian regulations on dual-purpose materials with potential military usage. Samkov added that it was not even clear if the suspect, a former scientist, would be indicted.

Earlier, the ITAR-Tass news agency said the material was radioactive and could potentially be used to

make nuclear weapons.

It quoted a FSB spokesman as saying the suspect, who worked in a research center in the Siberian city of Krasnoyarsk, supposedly invented a new method of making nuclear materials.

In a separate report Tuesday of nuclear theft in Siberia, ITAR-Tass said teen-agers in the city of Chita had stolen 45 low-radioactive items from a warehouse last Thursday and 13 of the items were still missing. Officials said the items, used in radiometers and smoke detectors, could be dangerous if they came in contact with skin.

Nuclear smuggling is a major international concern, and much of it focuses on Russia and other former Soviet republics.

A recent report by the US General Accounting Office said an estimated 1,400 tons of weapons-grade uranium and plutonium produced by the former Soviet Union are "highly attractive to theft" because of outdated security measures and poor records.

Liberian gunmen display severed head, embrace foes

MONROVIA (Reuters) — Gunmen loyal to Liberia's main warlord Charles Taylor displayed the severed head of a Krahn fighter in central Monrovia yesterday as West

African foreign ministers opened talks in Ghana on the peace process.

Fighting broke out across a key bridge heading into downtown despite a truce declared on

Monday, but elsewhere in the city gunmen of rival factions embraced on the frontline.

Fighters of Charles Taylor's National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) said the head belonged to

a member of the celebrated Butt-Naked Brigade captured in fighting on Monday.

The lightly-clad body, with a bullet wound in the neck, lay in the street 100 meters away.

Exit poll projects BJP party winning election in India

NEW DELHI (AP) — An exit poll broadcast by state television after polls closed yesterday projected that the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party will win the most seats in parliamentary elections, but will fall well short of a majority.

The poll predicted the BJP and its allied parties will win 192 seats, the governing Congress Party will win 142, and the National Front-Left Front will win 134. The rest will go to small regional parties and independents.

Voting was being held for 543 seats in the Lok Sabha, the legislative lower house of parliament. Another two seats will be appointed by the new government. Balloting has been completed for all but six of the contested seats.

The exit poll, conducted by the Independent Center for Developing Societies, had a margin of error of about 4 percent, meaning the outcome for each party could be wrong by five to 10 seats, said V.B. Singh, the director of the project.

"We are confident that we will be very close to the final result," Singh told The Associated Press. The poll said Congress won less than 30 percent of the popular vote, a drop of 7 percent from the last election in 1991 and its worst showing in any election.

The BJP's share of the popular vote rose by 6 percent from its 1991 showing of 20 percent. It won more seats because its popularity is concentrated in the most populous states that send the most legislators to parliament.

First war crimes trial since Nuremberg and Tokyo starts

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — A Bosnian Serb bar owner went on trial yesterday for the murder and torture of Muslims and Croats at the first international war crimes trial since Nuremberg and Tokyo.

Bosnian Serb Dusan Tadic has pleaded innocent to crimes against humanity, claiming he's a victim of mistaken identity. He faces a maximum penalty of life in prison.

"He took part in the killing of more than 30 detainees... and the torture of more than 12 female detainees, including several gang rapes," said chief trial prosecutor Grant Niemann, as Tadic watched impassively from the prisoner's dock, occasionally taking notes.

"The human tragedy that has occurred in the former Yugoslavia since May 1991 is of major proportions," Niemann said in his opening statement.

Defense lawyer Mischa Wladimiroff warned against making Tadic a scapegoat.

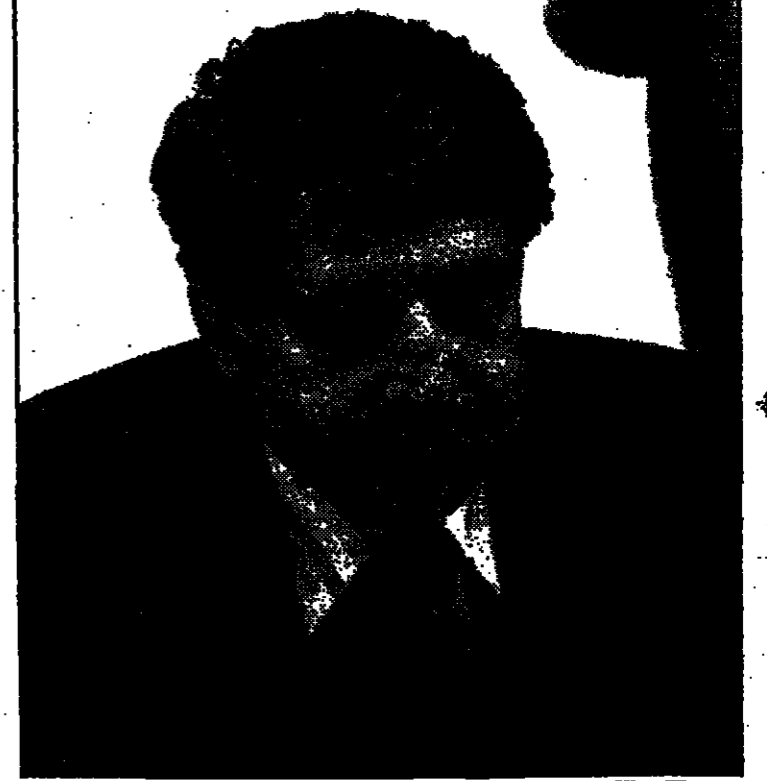
"An international hunger for a verdict of guilty must be resisted at all costs," Wladimiroff said.

The case against Tadic had been "blown out of all proportion," he said.

"There is evidence that the case is viewed as a symbol of everything that has happened in the area, and Dusko Tadic has been portrayed as the archetype of a war criminal."

Presiding over the three-judge panel in the juryless trial is US Judge Gabrielle Kirk McDonald.

Despite the dozens of conflicts worldwide since World War II, the Balkan conflict in southeastern Europe was the first to spur the



Bosnian Serb Dusan Tadic, at his trial yesterday at The Hague, where he was charged with crimes against humanity. (Reuters)

international community into setting up a tribunal.

The UN tribunal is based on laws and procedures developed at the Nuremberg and Tokyo war crimes courts after World War II.

It's unlikely that any of the architects of the genocide that left an estimated 200,000 Bosnians

dead or missing will soon come before the tribunal, whose authority is rejected by both Serbia and

the Bosnian Serbs.

The tribunal has so far indicted 57 suspects — 46 Serbs, eight Croats and three Muslims — but has just three in custody in The Hague and a further four arrested and awaiting transfer to the tribunal.

Topping its most wanted list are Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic and his army commander, Gen. Ratko Mladic.

Schindler's widow criticizes husband

THE three men most responsible for bringing the story of Oskar Schindler, the flawed hero of *Schindler's List*, to world attention have taken strong issue with Emilie Schindler's outspoken attack on her late husband.

In her book *Memoirs*, written in Spanish and published last month in Argentina, the 88-year old widow describes her husband as a non-stop womanizer and a "selfish coward," who saved 1,300 Jews working in his factory solely for their cheap labor and to avoid being drafted into the German army if he ceased to be an industrialist.

At a press conference in Buenos Aires, Mrs. Schindler also attacked Thomas Keneally, who

wrote *Schindler's List*, and Steven Spielberg, who turned the book into an Academy Award-winning movie.

She charged that the book was "packed with lies" and that the movie "idealized" her husband's role in protecting Jews, while underplaying her own contribution.

The strongest rebuttal to these charges comes from Los Angeles businessman Leopold Page, who as the young Polish Jew Leopold (Poldek) Pfefferberg worked for and with Oskar Schindler from 1939 to 1945.

It was Page who first told the

Schindler story to Keneally and persuaded him to write the book.

Page terms Mrs. Schindler's remarks "a disgrace to the memory of one of the true heroes of the century" and vouched for the accuracy of both the book and the movie.

He acknowledged Mrs. Schindler's own heroism in nursing frozen and starved prisoners back to health, but says that she only appeared on the scene during the last six months of the war, while her husband protected his Jews for almost six years.

Spielberg expressed his perplexity that "three years after publicly supporting [and praising] the film and its contents at numerous public events, Emilie Schindler has chosen to reverse herself with recent public statements to promote her book."

The most serious criticism she leveled at him in private conversations, said Spielberg, was that her husband had many more extra-marital affairs than shown in the film.

Spielberg acknowledges that some of the scenes portraying Mrs. Schindler's care of prisoners were cut to keep the movie at a manageable length.

BARAK

(Continued from Page 1)

to Hizbullah hundreds of Katyushas during Operation Grapes of Wrath. He said he could neither confirm nor deny reports that Iran had given Hizbullah sophisticated long-range Katyushas with a range of 36 km. or 43 km. The range of the standard Katyushas it possesses is between 20 km. and 25 km.

At present there is quiet in south Lebanon as Hizbullah assesses the damage, but it is proba-

bly also examining ways of further attacking Israel, Shabak said. In answer to a question by Meretz MK Naomi Chazan, he said the IDF cannot leave south Lebanon in the current security situation.

The committee members were given a copy of US Secretary of State Warren Christopher's letter about the understanding reached at the end of Grapes of Wrath. Likud MK Benny (Ze'ev) Begin asked how the government had abandoned Israel's security by placing it in the hands of the US. Shabak declined to answer.

He also said Israel continues to receive warnings of terror attacks, but these are vague. As a result, he said, Israel is continuing to bar entry to Palestinian workers. *Marilyn Hevry contributed to this report*

POLICE

(Continued from Page 1)

ian police station in Abu Dis for interrogation.

The government allows the Abu Dis station, just outside the city limits, to operate, in accordance with its agreements with the PA. However, the agreements prohibit all official PA activity in Jerusalem.

The PA security apparatus head was remanded yesterday in Jerusalem Magistrate's Court for nine days. The court accepted the suspect's request to issue an order forbidding publication of his name. The secretary, Sabah Abu Hawwa, 35, from Wadi Joz, was remanded for eight days.

Before dawn yesterday, police detained five east Jerusalem residents suspected of working at the station and being involved in the kidnapping and torturing of Palestinians suspected of wrongdoing, according to the police spokesman.

Also detained yesterday, as he returned to Israel over the Allenby Bridge, was Daoud Abu Jazala, 50, from Wadi Joz, who is believed to be the Wadi Joz police station chief. The spokesman said more arrests are expected.

The raid and the arrests follow months of undercover work by detectives from the Jerusalem Police Minorities Division.



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Hebron pullout still being argued over

LAMIA LAHOUD

THE elected Palestinian council intends to protest against Israel's suggestion that they make a phased withdrawal from Hebron, said Ahmed Qrei, the council speaker. He said that while it was obvious the government did not want to withdraw from the city before the elections, a gradual pullout which might never be completed was not acceptable to the Palestinians.

Qrei said, Palestinians fear Prime Minister Shimon Peres could later back out of the agreement on redeployment in Hebron in order to forge coalition agreements with religious Knesset factions. "The Israeli military governor of Hebron has been telling us for a month that the IDF can redeploy there in a couple of hours," Hebron mayor Mustafa Natshe said.

"What do the Israelis mean then by gradual redeployment? Divide it into minutes or hours?" On Sunday Israeli and Palestinian security teams met to discuss redeployment procedures. "The Israelis told us they are waiting for a political decision of the cabinet," said one Palestinian security officer who attended the meeting. Another PA official said no time had yet been fixed.

Natshe said they had discussed the transfer of the few civilian institutions still under Israeli control, such as communications. They also discussed in detail the deployment of the Palestinian police and the redeployment of the IDF. Natshe believed the talks were Israel's way of playing for time until after the elections. There remain some unresolved issues like the functions of the TIPH (Temporary International Presence in Hebron), which is mostly comprised of Norwegian observers.

The observers' role should be to watch the redeployment and the implementation of the agreed measures in Hebron, Natshe said. He conceded the TIPH was mainly symbolic as the unarmed observers would have a very limited mandate. Natshe said the Norwegians are drafting proposed functions which they will submit to Israel and the Palestinians for joint approval.

A logistics team is already in Hebron to prepare for the observers' arrival. The most difficult unresolved issue remains security of the

Machpela Cave. Under the agreements, Israel is to remain temporarily in full control there. Three months after the redeployment, fresh talks on security arrangements at the cave should start. One PA official said he will demand that security arrangements for the Tomb of the Patriarchs be discussed sooner, since Israel did not keep to the agreed timetable for redeploying originally by March 28th.

He said Palestinians are asking for joint security at the tomb but Natshe said this will not satisfy Hebronites. "Hebronites do not mind Jews visiting the holy shrine," he said, but added that Abraham's tomb should be a Moslem place of worship only under sole Palestinian control. Under the agreements, the city will be divided into Hebron 1 and Hebron 2. Hebron 1, most of the city, will be under Palestinian control similar to the Area A status of other Palestinian towns in the territories.

Hebron 2 will have special security arrangements. Israel remains in control of security but Palestinian police and municipal officers will have some civilian functions relating to the Palestinian population. The PA official said Hebron 2 will be something between an Area B and an Area C. Passage between Gaza and the territories is another unresolved interim agreement issue. Israeli and Palestinian negotiators met again yesterday to discuss the differences and Gen. Abdel Razak Yahya, who heads the Palestinian delegation, said some progress had been made.

"To start with, there were 12 unresolved points concerning passage. Now we disagree only on five points." The main issues relate to security. Israel requires the right to pursue and arrest wanted Palestinians, Yahya said, and the PA can not accept this. He said Palestinians can only accept Israel arresting someone who commits a crime en route, but not a mere suspect. He said suspects should be reported to the Palestinian authorities who would investigate and make arrests if warranted.

"Even Palestinians denied access to Israel should be allowed safe passage from territory to territory," he said.

Algerian president says legislative elections set for '97

LONG-awaited legislative elections will be held next year in Algeria, a nation that has become bloodied by Islamic insurgency, the president announced this week. But there were no signs that the country's outlawed Islamic opposition movement would be allowed to field candidates, casting doubts on how far President Liamine Zeroual is willing to go in his democratic reforms.

Zeroual characterized as "positive" a month of dialogue with about 100 political leaders. Conspicuously absent from the talks were representatives of the Islamic Salvation Front, banned since January 1992 when the army canceled legislative elections the Front was expected to win. That cancellation and the jailing of Front leaders triggered a bloody insurgency by armed Islamic extremist groups that has killed more than 40,000 people in four years of strife.

Zeroual, elected last November to a five-year term in balloting boycotted by most of the opposition, said the next round of legislative elections would be held sometime in the first half of 1997. He did not mention the Front or whether it would be allowed to participate in the voting. There was no immediate reaction to his announcement. Zeroual said the 1997 balloting would be followed by local community elections. Later this year, he said, there would be a national referendum on Algeria's constitution, last revised in 1989 to allow for a multiparty system.

Zeroual was vague on the purpose of the referendum, describing it as an effort "to place unity and national identity above political considerations." Pressure had been mounting on Zeroual, a retired army general appointed in 1994, to lead Algeria in a transition to democracy, to set legislative elections.

In the latest violence, two people were killed when a bomb exploded at a bus stop in the Mediterranean city of Tizi-Ouzou last Saturday, the same day a former interior minister was assassinated. Three armed men shot to death Mohammed Hardi in Onez Smar, an Algiers suburb known as a stronghold of the Armed Islamic Group, the most extremist of Algeria's armed factions trying to topple the government and install strict Islamic rule.

Hardi was the second former interior minister to be slain in nine months, despite the personal security detail former leaders typically are assigned. Last September, gunmen killed former interior minister Aboubakr Belkaid in a bustling quarter of Algiers. No one immediately claimed responsibility for either of Saturday's attacks. But suspicion fell on the Armed Islamic Group. Zeroual this week met Libya's Justice and Public Order Minister Mohammed al-Higazi in Algiers, the Algerian official news agency APS said. Al-Higazi came to deliver a message from Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi to Zeroual. "My talks with the President Zeroual touched on the Maghreb Arab Union (UMA), the next Maghreb summit and the next presidency of the union," al-Higazi was quoted by APS as saying.

Algeria, currently the president of the UMA, offered Gaddafi the post last year but he turned it down to protest member countries' adherence to UN sanctions on Libya for not handing over suspects in the Lockerbie bombing in 1988. The UMA groups Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Mauritania and Tunisia. Algeria's interior minister, Mustapha Benmansour, and al-Higazi co-chaired a joint committee to supervise cooperation between the two North African countries. (News agencies)

Taba gives hints that Clinton charm worked on Arafat

ANALYSIS
PINHAS INBARI

THE long journey to a permanent-status agreement with the Palestinians began in Taba this week. While no one can expect any results early, even now we may judge their orientation from the composition of the delegations. Israel's chief negotiator is Foreign Ministry Director-General Uri Savir. Leading the Palestinians is Abu Mazen, an architect of the Oslo agreements.

The first thing to note is that Abu Mazen-Savir is a continuation of the Abu Ala-Savir negotiations which ran in parallel with those of another pair: Minister Yossi Beilin and Palestinian Authority Minister Nabil Shaath. In many respects these two streams supported one another, but they were on a collision course on one main economic subject. Abu Ala and Savir believed in cooperating with the World Bank's efforts to establish industrial zones for the benefit of the West Bank and Gaza. The Shaath-Beilin talks were interested in a port for Gaza. Accordingly, Abu Ala and Savir became linked to the American concept of permanent status. Beilin and Shaath moved closer to European concepts. Just before the current Taba talks, PLO leader Yasser Arafat was given red carpet treatment at the White House and was received at the headquarters of the World Bank in Washington. Generally speaking, we may conclude that the appearance of Abu Mazen as the top Palestinian negotiator indicates that the Clinton charm had its impact.

nudging Arafat's policy off his traditional pro-European tendencies in favor of the US. It is far too early to speculate to what extent Arafat will embrace US concepts of a permanent solution. So far, he opposed, for example, the US suggestion that Palestinian refugees be settled in host Arab states. Some indication of change may be found in the recent Palestine National Council resolutions on refugees. Although the PNC stuck to the right of return, a paragraph was added which for the first time mentioned a need to improve living conditions in refugee camps. Much will hinge on how long Arafat will keep Abu Mazen as

chief negotiator. A reappearance of Shaath would be a bad signal for Washington. Arafat may also be tempted to replace Abu Mazen, because he has enough stature to choose his own direction and make his own decisions. Through these negotiations, he could develop his position to become undisputed No. 2 in the PLO hierarchy. IT WOULD be natural for Palestinians to be on the lookout for the leader who will shape their destiny in the post-Arafat era. Abu Mazen did not have a major role in the interim status negotiations, though he did intervene from time to time to solve random problems. He was removed by Arafat as head of the Palestinian steering committee on interim-period sta-

tus. Arafat was aware of the special political danger Abu Mazen might have posed for him in that volatile phase. Nonetheless, Abu Mazen did not accept Arafat's concept of how to structure Palestinian self-governance. While Abu Mazen called for the establishment of a well-institutionalized political entity, Arafat preferred his traditional concentric circles of cronies dealing directly with him and not with organized institutions. He emphasizes his wish to continue using this system after he achieves his goal of a state. Those are symbols of the current and, Arafat believes, future Palestinian regime. This remains a long way from being accepted by Abu Mazen. Only the future can tell which will prevail.

France keeps high profile

FRANCE this week kept up the high-profile in Middle Eastern affairs it aspired to during the negotiations for the ceasefire in Operation Grapes of Wrath. In Paris, the government rolled out the red carpet for King Hassan of Morocco, putting its determination to bolster a rampart against Moslem fundamentalism in North Africa ahead of concerns about human rights. President Jacques Chirac welcomed the veteran monarch at Orly airport with full military honors at the start of a two-day state visit during which Hassan became only the third foreign leader to address France's National Assembly. The 66-year-old king, looking thin after a bout of pneumonia last winter, was accompanied by two of his children, Prince Moulay Rachid and Princess Lalla Maryam, and a government delegation led by Prime Minister Edouard Balladur.

Jordan's King Hussein also met Chirac this week and said the two were in step on policy to bring lasting peace and stability to Lebanon. Hussein, who met Chirac for lunch at the Elysee presidential palace, also said that he hoped that Chirac would soon pay an official visit to Jordan. He told reporters the two had "views completely in step with one another" over Lebanon. "We are glad that Lebanon safeguarded its unity, we want it to retain its sovereignty and territorial integrity. We hope that it will be able to resolve its problems," Hussein said. Hussein said he believed US and French policies in the region were complementary. French Foreign Minister Hervé de Charette has admitted he irritated Washington by thrusting France into the peace talks over south Lebanon. The foreign ministry sought this week to stamp out more irritation and controversy over a statement by a junior minister who said French aid to Lebanese civilians was in part being distributed by Hizbullah.

"There is nothing inevitable about fundamentalism," he told the daily *Le Parisien*. "The surest response to the fundamentalist drift is freedom, a judicious education and a fair balance between respect and protection of (Moslems') identity and the necessary achievements of modernity." Chirac has worked since taking office a year ago to bolster Morocco and Tunisia as twin ramparts against Islamic extremism racking neighboring Algeria, amid French fears of a flood of immigrants from former north African colonies. That aim has led him to turn a blind eye to both countries' human rights record and limited democracy, in contrast to his Socialist predecessor, Francois Mitterrand. A French foreign ministry spokesman said he expected human rights to be raised "in a spirit of confidence" during the visit, but he noted improvements, including the release of many political prisoners and the closure of a notorious desert jail. In a speech defining France's "Arab policy" last month, Chirac said attachment to human rights and liberty "must not prevent us from recognizing that these values can be expressed in different forms in our respective cultures and traditions."

Franco-Moroccan relations were severely strained in the early 1990s when Hassan was angered by Mitterrand's policy of conditioning aid to former colonies on progress in democracy and by a highly critical book, *Notre Ami le Roi* ("Our Friend the King") by author Gilles Perrault, which epitomized the French Left's distaste for Hassan's personal rule. But worsening bloodshed in Algeria since the army intervened in 1992 to prevent the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) winning a general election led to a reassessment in Paris of the strategic value of Morocco and its enduring ruler. Chirac, a personal friend of King Hassan, made his first state visit to Morocco last year, earning a tumultuous welcome. The king had been due to return the visit last November but the trip was postponed after he fell seriously ill, raising concern about the stability of a state so dependent on one man. (News agencies)

France's attitude to Hizbullah has not changed," said foreign ministry spokesman Jacques Rummelhardt about a weekend statement during a visit to Lebanon by Xavier Emmanuelli, junior minister for emergency humanitarian action. Emmanuelli while touring southern Lebanon answered positively when asked if he knew French aid given to the Lebanese government for distribution was being passed on to Hizbullah for distribution in the field. "Hizbullah participates in medical rescue and social welfare. There is no reason to exclude them," Emmanuelli said. The statements were potential domestic political dynamite since Paris courts have said Hizbullah was thought connected to a bomb attack in Paris in 1986 in which half a dozen people were killed and dozens wounded. The French military also hold Hizbullah responsible for the suicide bombing of a French position in Beirut in 1983 in which 58 paratroopers were killed. Two hundred and forty one US Marines were killed in a similar attack the same day. Rummelhardt said: "Emmanuelli was not thinking of anything beyond recognizing that Hizbullah can be involved in certain charitable activities. "But this changes nothing to France's attitude which, I insist, is that Hizbullah must scrupulously respect the April 26 cease-fire agreements ending the cycle of violence," he said. Morocco's King Hassan, in an interview published before he arrived, told French leaders anxious at instability in North Africa what they wanted to hear - that the spread of anti-Western Moslem fundamentalism was not inevitable. "There is nothing inevitable about fundamentalism," he told the daily *Le Parisien*. "The surest response to the fundamentalist drift is freedom, a judicious education and a fair balance between respect and protection of (Moslems') identity and the necessary achievements of modernity."

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Turkey cool to Arabs, stands by Israel

TURKISH Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz said this week that water is as important to Turkey as oil is to Arabs and his government is not ready for a water-sharing pact with neighboring Syria and Iraq. The statement was the strongest suggestion by a Turkish leader yet that Turkey will not meet demands by the two Arab states for an agreement giving each of the three countries an equal share of water from the Tigris and Euphrates rivers. Relations between Turkey and some Arab countries also hit a new low recently over a military agreement Ankara signed with Israel which allows IDF warplanes to fly training sorties over Turkish territory. "We will take our needs from the water, and no reaction will stop us from achieving this goal," he told the London-based magazine. Yilmaz also said that Turkey is planning to sell surplus water to foreign countries, but he did not say which ones. President Suleyman Demirel was quoted earlier this year as saying that Israel and Turkey are considering plans for a water pipeline under the Mediterranean to supply the Jewish state. Both Syria and Iraq have been complaining that Turkey has diverted water from the Euphrates and Tigris rivers through dams it has been building for hydroelectric and irrigation projects. (AP)

But Yilmaz said Turkey has no intentions to succumb to Arab pressure and cancel its agreement with Israel. "Israel is an important power that is influencing the international balance of power, and Turkey is taking that into consideration," he said. Yilmaz said, however, that Turkey will continue to provide both Syria and Iraq with what it sees as their need for water from the two rivers, which flow from its territory into the neighboring states. "As the Arab world is not thinking of sharing its oil with others, Turkey is not ready to share water flowing in its territories with others," Yilmaz told the Arabic weekly *Al-Wasat*. "We will take our needs from

the water, and no reaction will stop us from achieving this goal," he told the London-based magazine. Yilmaz also said that Turkey is planning to sell surplus water to foreign countries, but he did not say which ones. President Suleyman Demirel was quoted earlier this year as saying that Israel and Turkey are considering plans for a water pipeline under the Mediterranean to supply the Jewish state. Both Syria and Iraq have been complaining that Turkey has diverted water from the Euphrates and Tigris rivers through dams it has been building for hydroelectric and irrigation projects. (AP)



The Archbishop of Kana and teachers lay wreaths on the Kana mass grave where more than 100 civilians including two US naturalized brothers were buried Sunday. (Reuters)

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Campaign at high gear

Today, in adherence to election rules, a radio-television blackout on the appearance of candidates begins. Though modified this week to allow the appearance of government officials and opposition leaders if an emergency like a terrorist strike occurs, these rules are archaic and slightly dotty. They should be abolished and replaced by an "equal time" regulation which would prevent broadcasters' glaring biases from determining the amount and quality of time allowed candidates on the air.

The end of the candidates' appearances also signals the shifting of the election campaign into high gear. For the next three weeks, campaign "commercials" will fill the airwaves, and activities on the street will intensify.

Not surprisingly, the major parties' messages will be directed mostly at the "floating" vote. The majority of the population has made up its mind, but the gap between the candidates seems narrow enough to allow the "undecided" to elect the next premier. And since they are obviously located somewhere in the center of the political map, the two major parties, particularly the candidates for prime minister, will attempt to appear more centrist than they would ever dream of being in real life.

In fact, they have so moderated their positions that their pronouncements seem virtually interchangeable. But even the most naive of Israel's voters must realize that the differences between the competing candidates are real and deep.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres has been trying to attract voters who fear his concessionary policies by acting tough in Lebanon (at least initially) and sounding unyielding on Jerusalem.

But no one could have been surprised by the Third Way party's revelations on Sunday, according to which Washington has agreed to postpone the negotiations with Syria until after the elections, since most voters still oppose a deal which would entail total withdrawal from the Golan. In return, Peres is supposed to have

promised that the process will be accelerated to achieve dramatic results - including an announcement of Israeli willingness to withdraw to the international border - before the US elections in November.

Nor can Peres's protestations on Jerusalem be taken too seriously. Even as he declared yesterday that Jerusalem cannot be divided and that it can only be Israel's capital, veteran Oslo negotiator Ron Pundak announced that a Palestinian state with a capital in Jerusalem is likely within three years. In 1993 Pundak was negotiating with the PLO on behalf of the government, while Peres was saying Israel would never talk with the PLO. Voters should not have too much trouble deciding which one of them to believe now.

The electorate may find it just as difficult to believe that candidate Binyamin Netanyahu has become a fan of the Oslo agreements. Although he keeps stating that he will honor the pacts if the PLO does, he also calls them disastrous. What is still unclear is whether he assumes that the PLO will not abide by the accords, thus absolving him of the need to continue with the talks, or he simply intends to be tougher in the final status negotiations. What he obviously hopes for is that voters who have reservations about Peres's headlong rush to make territorial concessions will prefer the more cautious approach he advocates.

Ultimately, undecided voters, who have no strong ideological convictions, will probably choose the candidate they believe has a better grasp of reality and is better equipped to withstand the rigors of the office. In this Netanyahu has a clear advantage, if for no other reason than that he is not Peres. As long as Yitzhak Rabin was prime minister, the public believed that Peres's extravagant dreams of a new Middle East would be held in check by his down-to-earth, security-conscious boss. With Rabin gone, Peres's proclivity for viewing the region with Pollyannish eyes may make them wonder about his ability to cope with harsh realities.

Footnote to the Covenant

Yesterday was the deadline for the changes the PLO was committed to make in the Palestinian Covenant according to the Oslo agreements. No changes have been made. The covenant is still in force, intact.

The Labor party recruited 28 academics to sign a large advertisement in the Hebrew papers yesterday, intended to confirm that the Covenant has indeed been changed. But even this ad failed to do more than assert that the decision by the Palestine National Council (PNC) constituted an important step toward a new formulation of the Covenant. The professors could not point to a single change which has been made or will be made in this Palestinian charter.

The simple, incontrovertible truth is that no one knows when and what changes will be made. The very fact that the decision refers to the cancellation of articles which contradict the letters of mutual recognition exchanged by Yasser Arafat and the late Yitzhak Rabin without any specifications opens it to unlimited interpretations. That there is no time limit on the

projected changes adds to the suspicion that if anything at all is ever done, it will be far from what Israel has the right to expect: the abolition of the calls to delegitimize and dismantle Israel. This means the cancellation of 30 of the 33 Covenant articles.

It must be added, too, that the fact that Arafat sent Prime Minister Shimon Peres a misleading translation of the PNC decision only compounds suspicions about the whole exercise. The original Arabic states that a decision was made "to amend" (*ta'adil*) the Covenant, and the English translation by the American Consulate General in Jerusalem, sent to the administration in Washington, renders it correctly. The translation distributed by Peres in the government translates it inaccurately as "the Covenant is hereby amended."

Many now try to belittle the Covenant's importance. But the issue is obviously not at all trivial in the eyes of the Palestinian leadership. Nor should Israel consider trivial Arafat's repeated pronouncements which confirm his adherence to its letter and spirit.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POETRY CONTEST

Sir, - Voices: The Israeli English Poetry Association, in proud keeping with its principle to encourage the writing of English poetry everywhere, is celebrating its seventh international poetry contest in memory of Reuben Rose, founder of the largest English-speaking poetry group in Israel.

Prizes: \$300; \$150; \$100 and \$50. Cost per poem submitted: NIS 8. Receipt acknowledged if accompanied by a self addressed stamped envelope or an international reply coupon. Deadline for submissions: September 30. Winners will be notified by November.

Requirements: Challenging and curious poetry not necessarily on Jewish or Israeli subjects. Poems should not be more than 40 lines each and submitted in duplicate, one copy with name and address of the entrant.

POOR PR

Sir, - Your column *Eye on the Media* of April 26 certainly spelled out the Israel-bashing situation very clearly. Needless to say this does not include the anti-Israel and antisemitic views of the readers and viewers. One of the reasons for the success of the anti-Israel lobby is the poor standard of public relations of our government, army and press. Government and army spokesmen at press conferences where the English foreign press corps is in the majority are not English speakers. They just do not have the language ability to reply forcefully to the searching questions of the high-powered reporters of CNN, the BBC, *The New York Times* and so on.

By giving Norway the "honor" of birthing the Oslo Accords Israel, in its thirst for peace, believed the Norwegians would be honest brokers, and unwittingly played into the hands of those committed to its eradication.

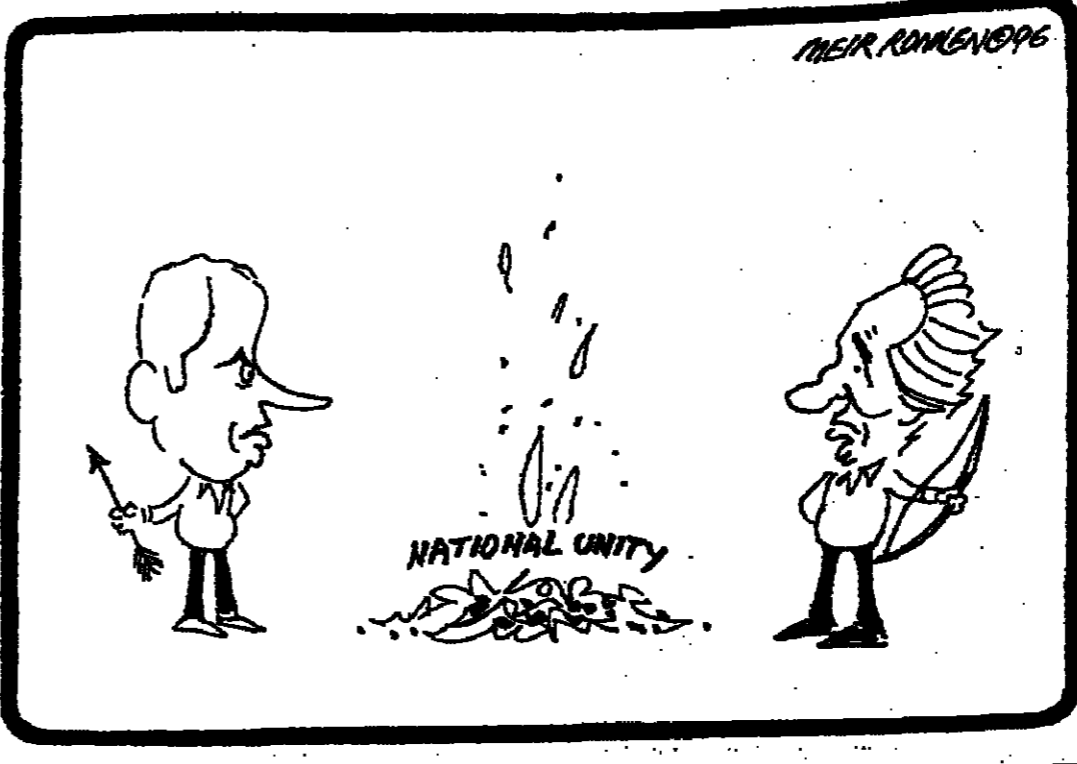
Central to *Dagen's* report was a statement Tore Godal approved in 1971, when the Labor Party Youth Organization (AUF) undertook to "support the forces which struggle for the national and social liberation of the Palestinian people."

The qualification for lasting peace must be that Israel ceases to exist as a Jewish state, said the AUF. "and that a progressive Palestinian state is established where all ethnic groups can live side by side in complete equality." Confronted with his words last Friday, Godal said: "It is irrelevant what I meant at that point, because the situation has changed." But it has not changed;

WHERE IS THE TRUTH?

Sir, - Will the real PNC resolution on the Covenant please stand up? We attempted to secure an English translation of the resolution from the Government Press Office. They seemed surprised by the request, but assured us that they had the government's statement on the subject.

Prime Minister Peres stated that it was the most important development in a hundred years. Columnist Barry Rubin wrote that the PNC rescinded most of its charter. Peace Now issued a statement of congratulations for "canceling the clauses in its Covenant." On the other hand, Jon Immanuel of the *Post* wrote on April 25: "The vote did not actually change the



Wrath, followed by shame

MOSHE ARENS

It is only common sense to gauge the success of an operation by the degree to which it succeeded to attain its objective. But what was the objective of Operation Grapes of Wrath? Was it a return to the "understandings" that had failed in the past, this time in a four-paragraph memo addressed to nobody and signed by no one? An understanding that makes the safety of the population in the north of Israel dependent on the "good will" of the Hizbullah, and severely limits the IDF's ability to fight this terrorist organization? It is difficult to believe that that was the objective of our prime minister when with much fanfare he launched a military operation that resulted in so much pain and suffering for Israelis in the Galilee as well as for the Lebanese civilian population.

What should have been the objective of the operation? To all Israelis, not only the ones who had to seek protection in the shelters or who had to evacuate their homes, it seemed obvious that the IDF had been ordered to put an end to Katyushas falling on the Galilee, and that this mission was going to be accomplished within 48, or at most, 72 hours.

Nor should there have been any doubt about the IDF's ability to carry out this mission against the few hundred Hizbullah terrorists operating in southern Lebanon. That the hostilities would continue for 17 days, that Katyushas would continue to rain down on the Galilee during this entire period, was a nightmare that nobody had foreseen and one which will continue to haunt us in the future. The overriding perception left by Operation Grapes of Wrath in Israel, in the Middle East and in much of the world, is that the IDF had been unable to put a stop to Hizbullah's firing of Katyushas against Israel. That perception, even if mistaken, can have dangerous consequences for our population in Galilee and for Israel itself.

IN LIGHT of this, our prime minister's boasting of the great importance of the "understandings" reached, and his congratulations to the IDF's commanders for the way the 17-day operation was carried out, sound hollow indeed. In the short term, what has been achieved is no more than a return to the "understandings" of 1993. These understandings hampered the IDF substantially in its fight against Hizbullah and may have resulted in a significant increase in IDF casualties in the fighting in the security zone during the past three years.

If the IDF adheres to the limitations imposed by these understandings, or more importantly to Hizbullah's interpretation of these limitations, the inhabitants of Kiryat Shmona and Nahariya may not have to return to the shelters, but the IDF will have to pay the price by limiting itself to the "right of self-defense" against Hizbullah rather than actively pursuing the enemy, in the well-known IDF tradition.

These distorted rules of engagement may hold for a while, but nobody expects Hizbullah to fight by the Marquis of Queensberry rules. Sooner or later it will violate Israel's interpretation of the "understandings," while in the meantime the people of the Galilee will continue to be hostages to Hizbullah's moods and frenzy.

Even more serious is the long-term outlook. Regardless of Prime Minister Shimon Peres's and US Secretary of State Warren Christopher's public utterances, the 17-day campaign is not perceived as an Israeli victory - certainly not by Hizbullah or its Iranian mentors, nor by Syria and the rest of the Arab world. It is not lost on all involved that it was not Hizbullah that sought a cease-fire. It was at Israel's behest that Christopher began shuttling between Damascus and Jerusalem. Just to emphasize this point, Hizbullah continued the shelling of northern Israel to the very last minute. As far as they are concerned they have scored a victory, and taught Israel a lesson. Unfortunately, this may be the lasting image in the Arab world of Operation Grapes of Wrath, and should that turn out to be the case, the consequences for Israel's security may be very serious.

This is the first time in Israel's history that a major military operation has ended so inconclusively, leaving our enemies with a sense of victory. That it forced tens of thousands of our citizens to spend 17 days and nights in shelters or evacuated from their homes, while their homes and property were being destroyed, is a nightmare none of us had expected to see in real life. Many amongst us feel ashamed. All should be concerned.

The writer is a former defense minister.

The final round

ALON BEN-MEIR

The third, and final phase of Israeli-Palestinian peace negotiations which began this week in Taba, is expected to be even more difficult than the previous rounds which led to the Oslo Agreements.

This time, however, negotiations will be conducted in a different psychological and political atmosphere, with each party knowing that the final settlement will define the national character of both Israel and the Palestinian entity. Any single issue on the agenda - the future of Jerusalem, the fate of the settlements, the right of return for Palestinian refugees, or what constitutes the final borders - could entangle the negotiations for months, if not years.

Should Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu become the next prime minister, negotiations will be further complicated. Palestinian and Israeli extremists who oppose the talks will no doubt also do their best to torpedo the whole process.

There are three crucial developments, however, that will encourage a greater spirit of understanding and cooperation than that which prevailed throughout the first two rounds of Israeli-Palestinian talks.

First, Palestinian Authority head Yasser Arafat has finally grasped the necessity of reining in violence as a prerequisite for the talks' continuation. Neither Hamas nor the Islamic Jihad is likely to cease their terrorist activities against Israel, but it is now expected that the Palestinian Authority will deal with future violence with vigilance and commitment, guided by the principle that negotiations and terrorism cannot go hand-in-hand.

Then there is the amendment to the PLO Covenant, removing all the clauses that had called for Israel's destruction. This particular historic action has had tremen-

ous psychological impact on Israelis, many of whom see Arafat for the first time as a reliable partner in the peace process - a perception that will not be lost on Israel's negotiators when hard choices must be made.

Most important, though, is the human dimension which has evolved from the long, tough and often intractable negotiations already conducted between the two sides. In the course of these negotiations, Israelis and Palestinians have come to know and appreciate each others' inner-

most feelings and emotions. Each party has witnessed the other's deepest fears, anxieties and concerns. Both sides have been traumatized by five decades of bloody conflict that claimed not only tens of thousands of lives, but robbed many more of basic human needs - trust, dignity, and compassion.

Both Israelis and Palestinians now realize that driven by a conviction of "do or die," they killed each other because the choices were reduced to "you" or "I".

Following four years of painstaking negotiations, they can at last look at each other and see similar weaknesses, feel the same pain, and share the same anxieties for the future. This recognition has led them to believe that only coexistence, under separate political authority, will restore them to sanity and dignity.

THERE IS another reason for optimism. The United States, whose vital interests in the Middle East are sustained through peace and stability, will also, of course, exert tremendous pressure on both sides to achieve an equitable settlement regardless of who is Israel's next premier or the next head of the Palestinian Authority.

In the end a resolution to the future of Jerusalem - perhaps the thorniest of all issues - will be found in the context of a Palestinian state, which does not preclude maintaining the unity of the city as Israel's capital.

Many Israeli settlements and settlers will remain in the West Bank under Palestinian jurisdiction (like many Palestinians in Israel), and some settlements (those surrounding Jerusalem) will be incorporated into Israel. A limited number of Palestinians who want to reunite with their families (perhaps up to 100,000) will be repatriated while many others will be compensated. And the final political borders (no barbed wire or walls) will be drawn, allowing people and goods to move freely in both directions.

There are still many blind fanatics, Palestinians and Israelis alike, who will battle the wind in their refusal to accept the historic verdict to coexist in peace. To them I say: Give up! The sons of Abraham have come together; they have come home, to share what Providence has given!

It is this recognition, more than anything else, that will eventually compel both sides to accept a political settlement. It is this recognition that neither will live in peace without the other and neither will rule over the other that gives hope to the future success of the negotiations.

The writer teaches at the New School for Social Research in New York.

No honest broker

STAN GOODENOUGH

In a joint statement in Taba two days ago, Israel and the PLO committed themselves "to expedite their common work...as initiated by the Government of Norway" three years before. The peace process duly entered its final status phase.

Last weekend, the Norwegian daily *Dagen* published a shocking report exposing a 25-year-old commitment by leading figures in Norway's ruling Labor Party to support and facilitate the demise of Jewish Israel, and to establish a Palestinian state in its place.

Perhaps it is not really strange that the report, falling on the ears of a nation punch-drunk after 1,000 days of terror-plagued "peace," barely caused a stir.

Dagen's expose, (reported in the next day in *The Jerusalem Post*) revealed that 25 years ago, Norway's present Foreign Minister Bjorn Tore Godal, committed the Labor Party's youth to removing Jewish Israel from the Middle East. That commitment paved the way for the Oslo Accords.

In the 10 years before the secret Israel-PLO meetings began, other members of Norway's ruling Labor Party championed Yasser Arafat and his cause.

By giving Norway the "honor" of birthing the Oslo Accords Israel, in its thirst for peace, believed the Norwegians would be honest brokers, and unwittingly played into the hands of those committed to its eradication.

Central to *Dagen's* report was a statement Tore Godal approved in 1971, when the Labor Party Youth Organization (AUF) undertook to "support the forces which struggle for the national and social liberation of the Palestinian people."

The qualification for lasting peace must be that Israel ceases to exist as a Jewish state, said the AUF. "and that a progressive Palestinian state is established where all ethnic groups can live side by side in complete equality." Confronted with his words last Friday, Godal said: "It is irrelevant what I meant at that point, because the situation has changed." But it has not changed;

it has drawn nearer to its goal.

Dagen traced the course set by the AUF statement and pursued in the ensuing years by various Labor Party politicians, among them Thorvald Stoltenberg, Knut Frydenlund, and Norway's present Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland.

Stoltenberg was foreign minister when the secret Israel-PLO talks began in January 1993. (He was also the brother-in-law of the late Johan Joergen Holst, foreign

minister when the Oslo Agreement was signed.) Ten years before, he and then foreign minister Frydenlund visited Arafat in Tunisia and returned to persuade their Labor Party colleagues that "there is no reason to doubt Arafat's willingness to sit at the negotiating table."

Frydenlund had wanted Arafat to visit Oslo, but Swedish prime minister Olof Palme got the invitation in first, so the chairman of the Scandinavian Labor Parties met Arafat in Stockholm in April 1983, after which Brundtland told the press: "My view of Arafat is that he is a knowledgeable and interesting person... It is not an extremist I have met with."

Dagen recalled that the conclusion reached by Palme, and by Denmark's prime minister Anker Jorgensen, was equally clear: "Israel was the problem preventing peace in the Middle East."

Thus, writes *Dagen*, 12 years after meeting Arafat, Norway watched as Prime Minister

Brundtland "leads Yasser Arafat by the hand on the red carpet when he comes to receive the Nobel Prize for Peace."

IT IS important to note that the statement signed by Godal in 1971 did not call for the destruction of Israel in the classic sense. What it said was that Israel must cease to exist as a Jewish state.

Of course, this is hardly a new idea. It has been regularly enunciated by Israel's Arab enemies. Just last month, *Davar* Rishon quoted Egypt's Foreign Minister Amr Moussa as saying that "within the framework of the overall peace arrangements, Israel will return to its natural stature - in other words, with no ability to threaten the Arabs, and in the end will be absorbed into the Arab expanse."

It is this desire to eradicate Jewish identity that has been behind every act and force of anti-Semitism since Haman. And now Israel is playing right into its enemy's hands, for this is the end to which the peace process is heading.

And when, in President Bill Clinton's perversion of the biblical blessing, Israel ceases to be "a people dwelling alone, not reckoning itself among the nations," to which nation will we gentiles look for that light that you have always believed to be your calling to the world?

The writer is a South African currently resident in Israel.

Drive Carefully!

Arrive Safely!

The writer is a former defense minister.

Words of wisdom for new mothers

PARENTING
RUTH MASON

IVE been reading and enjoying your parenting column during the nine months of my pregnancy and now I would like to ask: What advice/words of wisdom do you have for a new mother-to-be? I love being pregnant and am very much looking forward to having the baby. But I know I have a lot to learn and I'm trying to prepare myself both physically, emotionally and information-wise for this big change in our lives. Thanks for whatever help you can provide.

I can offer this expectant mother the words of wisdom that served me well when I had my first child (see below). But on behalf of this young lady and other expectant moms, I turn to you, our experienced readers. What words of advice do you have for parents-to-be? What wisdom have you gained from your own experience that can help others? Send your typed or clearly written thoughts to the Parenting Column, Jerusalem Post, P.O. Box 81, Romema, Jerusalem 91000. Or E-mail it to parenting columnist Ruth Mason. For those of you with CompuServe, the address is 100274.1052. For those of you with another E-mail provider, the Internet address is: 100274.1052@compuserve.com. Please keep it short (under 100 words if possible). Phoned-in queries will not be accepted. We

will print the most useful answers in our column.

To the expectant Mom: The day after our first daughter was born, the midwife who assisted in her delivery, Sandra Woods, visited us in our hospital room (we had rooming-in and my husband, myself and our new daughter all slept - or tried to sleep - in the same room in a New York City hospital). When we told Sandra with innocent amazement that we had all slept only two hours the night before, she said, "Welcome to post-partum." I felt as if some pearly gates had opened under an ornate arch and we were entering a new land. When I asked for some words of wisdom to help us navigate this uncharted territory, Sandra said three things: "Feed her when she's hungry. Never wake a sleeping baby. And sleep when the baby sleeps."

In response to this advice, I inquired about having the baby on a schedule. Sandra, a veteran of hundreds of births, gazed at me and said, "Whose schedule?"

For better or worse (and I think far for the better for the babies), we followed this advice with our two subsequent children as well. For advice about infant sleep problems that may or may not ensue from following a laissez-faire approach to scheduling babies, see next week's column.

Jewish legislator battles Tennessee fundamentalism

STEVE Cohen has been called the last liberal in the Tennessee State Senate. He's also its only Jew.

He drew attention recently when his was the only vote against a state resolution that called on people to post the Ten Commandments in their homes, businesses and schools.

"The Ten Commandments were given to us by God," Cohen said. "God does not need the Tennessee General Assembly's help in disseminating them."

Although he was on the losing side of the political battle, he appears to have the law on his side. The state attorney general said the resolution was unconstitutional, because it violated the separation of church and state.

Some legislators apparently believed that posting the Ten Commandments would restore the moral basis of American society, and reduce crime, the divorce rate and other social ills. Others saw it as a "political opportunity to appease the radical religious right," said Cohen.

"The religious right has many people crippled and blinded," Cohen, 46, told *The New York Times*. "They're covering when there's no need to cover."

There are 17,000 Jews in Tennessee, out of 4.5 million people in the state. "This is heart of the Bible Belt and Memphis is the buckle," said Gary Sieper, executive director of the Memphis Jewish Federation. "It takes religion seriously and a lot of that religion is fundamentalism."

Tennessee has a certain notoriety for favoring religion. The state was the stage for the so-called "Scopes Monkey Trial," a 1925 legal battle in which a biology teacher, John Scopes, was convicted of the crime of teaching evolution.

At the time, the law prohibited the teaching of scientific evolution theories, such as the concept that man evolved from monkeys, that conflicted with the biblical creation story.

"The 'Monkey Trial' mentality resurfaced again this year, only to

be buried on March 28, when the state Senate voted to kill a measure that would have allowed school boards to fire teachers who tell students that evolution is fact.

"These people want to create a theocracy," Cohen said of his colleagues in the state legislature.

While he fumed at the Ten Commandments resolution as a dangerous mix of religion and politics, he also thought it gave Tennessee, the home state of US Vice President Al Gore, a bad name. "It makes us look like a backwoods state, a state that discourages educated thinking and science, a state that is fundamentalist in nature," Cohen said.

Cohen, a lawyer from Memphis, is a member of the Tennessee-Israel Cooperation Commission and a sponsor of legislation that created Tennessee's Holocaust Commission. He is known for defending abortion rights and civil rights protections for homosexuals.

"I think a goodly part of my liberalism comes from my Jewish heritage," said Cohen, the grandson of a Lithuanian immigrant to the US. "My positions do emanate from my experiences."

When he was six, Cohen got a profound lesson in civil rights. At an exhibition baseball game, a white player from the Chicago White Sox gave a baseball to Cohen, who had polio and was on crutches. When Cohen thanked him, the player said the ball wasn't from him; it was from Minnie Minozo, a black player.

"He didn't feel comfortable giving a baseball to a white person in Memphis in 1955," Cohen said. "Even acts of kindness from human being to human being or from adult to child were prohibited or looked at askance."

Cohen also gets his inspiration from former US president John F. Kennedy. He recalls seeing Kennedy's picture on the cover of *Time* magazine during the 1960 presidential campaign, along with the headline: "Can a Catholic be elected?"

"And I had to think, what about a Jew?" Cohen said.

Playboy founder Hugh Hefner enjoys life at 70

MICHAEL MILLER
LOS ANGELES

SEX, says Playboy empire founder Hugh Hefner, is as good at 70 as it was at 30. And "Hef," as he likes to be called, should know.

There may have been a few centerfolds he didn't have sex with over the years, but not many, he admitted in a recent interview.

But at the biblical threescore years and ten, which he reached last month, he has a permanent playmate; his wife, Kimberley, who was *Playboy's* playmate of the year in 1989.

Pictures of the former Kimberley Conrad adorn his library, where the interview took place, one of which shows his wife of nearly seven years (who is 36 years younger than he is), almost fully nude.

Asked by the interviewer, "Is sex at 70 as good as it was at 30?"

Hefner, looking directly at his wife's revealing photograph, replied, "Yes, when you're in love, sex is good at any age."

Hefner does not see much difference in the man who created a sexual revolution in America in 1953 with the first publication of *Playboy* magazine and the man today.

"You don't change a great deal. I'm still very much the man and boy who dreamed the dreams," he said, adding that he was more the boy than the man. Looking back on a life at his Playboy mansions, one in Chicago which he subsequently sold and the other in Los Angeles, where he still lives, the debonair playboy has few regrets.

Dressed in a pair of his trademark black silk pajamas and scarlet silk smoking jacket, Hefner said:

"In a life that has pushed the outer boundaries of social



'Hef' with his present wife of eight years and former playmate Kimberley Conrad in 1988. At 70, Hefner reflects that these 'September years' are his best yet. (Reuter)

change it is remarkable how roughly few scandals have really been in my life.

"I think that my life has been by and large very well lived. My views and values have changed very little over the

years, and to have had the kind of impact that I've had on some of the social and sexual values is something I take a particular pride in."

Hefner does not miss his once-hectic lifestyle in which

beautiful women swam and sunbathed nude on the grounds of his mansions.

"Once you can say, 'been there, done that,' it becomes kind of pointless doing it over and over again. I've fulfilled a

great majority of my dreams and my fantasies and I'm able to look back on that adventurous time with great pleasure.

"But I must say, these September years are the best of all for me. I've come full circle with Kimberley and our two children," he said.

The change in Hefner's life came in 1985 when he had a stroke which left him temporarily partially paralyzed and unable to speak. He fully recovered but the incident left an indelible mark on him.

As he put it, "I've called it a stroke of luck, and I used it... to put down the luggage of my life, which meant, in effect, that there wasn't anything else I had to prove, that I had accomplished what I wanted to accomplish."

"I had been running very very fast and I just got off the train and started smelling the flowers a little bit, so I don't have that other kind of pressure any more."

Hefner handed over control of his empire - the magazine, the Playboy cable television network, Playboy Videos and the Playboy line of clothing and accessories - to his daughter, Christie, from his first marriage.

However, with the relaxation of the public persona pressure he has become more involved with his pet project, the magazine.

He personally picks the playmate of the month from photographs and overseas the Playmate cover, centerfold and layout.

And the only Playboy bunnies in the Playboy Mansion these days are of the four-legged variety - rabbits kept in Hefner's large personal zoo along with more than 200 species of exotic birds together with monkeys and other animals. (Reuter)

Don't worry - the world is getting better

FOR the past 24 years, humanity has lived under the shadow of a doom-laden book called *The Limits to Growth*, which was commissioned by the Club of Rome and based on a computer simulation called World3.

World3 calculated that, if the world went on gobbling up its resources at 1972 rates and the population kept rising, the planet would run out of everything pretty soon. Then the population would crash, billions would starve to death, output would plummet and pollution soar. The only reassuring thing about the book was that the crash was not due to happen for another 70 or 80 years.

But have the last 24 years of worry been needless? This latter-day Malthusians, it turns out, were about as wrong as it is possible to be: exactly as wrong as Thomas Malthus was back in 1798 when he predicted mass starvation as population growth outstripped increases in agricultural supply.

Now, we are told, there are no limits to growth. The world will go on getting better and better for more and more people. Technology breakthroughs will stop us running out of raw materials, clean-up programs will deal with pollution and, if we need more space, there are always the deserts and the oceans.

These marvelous tidings are contained in a massively cheering book called *The State of Humanity*, edited by Julian L. Simon, which brings together 57 essays of joyfulness.

About the only bad news about the book is its price (£55 hardback - about NIS 260) and its weight (about the same as a brick). Even that may be an

affirmation of the principle that we are not running out of resources. Simon is obviously not worrying about trees.

The book is full of graphs which all reassuringly go up where they are meant to (life expectancy, proportion of American houses with indoor lavatories, etc.) and down when they ought (infant mortality, air pollution in London, world consumption of cigarettes, the cost of computer power). They may wiggle about a bit but the trends are truly there. Life just goes on getting better.

"If present trends continue, the world in 2000 will be less crowded, less polluted, more stable ecologically and less vulnerable to resource-supply disruption than it is now," Simon recalls writing in 1984.

In the latest volume, he notes that "the years have been kind to our forecasts and there is a stronger reason than ever to believe these progressive trends will continue past the year 2000, past 2100 and indefinitely."

SOME may beg to differ. But if the company's shares may be on the skids, or the children on drugs, these problems are transitory, mere statistical blips. It is the long view that matters.

Take life expectancy. Four centuries ago, life expectancy in Britain was just under 40. Now it is almost twice that. Four hundred years ago, even among the peasantry, infant diseases carried off 265 children per 1,000 by the age of five. Now the figure is around 10 in the developed countries and still falling.

In the developing world, it is much higher but still falling steadily. Life expectancy in

Africa averages 52 years, which "would have been the envy of every country in Europe at the turn of the century." In the West, says Simon, even working-class people enjoy a higher material standard of living than princes of 200 years ago.

Or take pollution. As countries get richer, they devote more resources to cleaning up. There are fish in the Thames again and a third as much sulfur dioxide in the London air as in the 1960s.

As societies become richer, their populations demand a better environment and are prepared to pay for one. Even in Russia, the worst polluter on the planet, this is starting to happen.

Or take natural resources. Far from running out of oil or food, we have more every year thanks to better exploration techniques, miracle grain strains and more efficient distribution.

Known oil reserves are higher than ever and, by the time the oil runs out, we should have cracked the secret of nuclear fusion, which produces energy out of water.

But there is a glaring flaw to this argument. Just because things have got consistently better, why should they go on doing so in the future? This, it appears, is the wrong question to ask. Simon stands the argument on its head: It is up to the doomsters to prove that the future will be different from the past - when we have always overcome Malthusianism.

Simon is capable of displaying breathtaking insouciance, especially when he discusses the possibility of a global plague, such as Aids, the

"flesh-eating bug," Ebola or, for that matter, Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, the human version of mad cow disease. Progress has allowed diseases, as well as people, to travel the globe at amazing speed.

No city on earth is more than about 24 hours from any other. Simon convincingly notes that even the Black Death, which killed off about a quarter of Europe's population, only set

the continent back a century or so.

The prophets of doom are, however, still with us. Three years ago the original authors of *The Limits to Growth*, Donella and Dennis Meadows, returned to the fray with a new book, *Beyond the Limits*, which is, if anything, even more alarming than the original.

Some people, it seems, just can't help worrying. (The Daily Telegraph)

Jewish Historical Seminars

THE JEWS OF THE NETHERLANDS AND ENGLAND

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Jo-Anne Greenblatt, Tel. 02-342079,
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The trip is in conjunction with Ziontours, 19 Hillel St., Jerusalem, Fax. 02-255329.

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 1996

Lower taxes highlight Netanyahu economics

JACOB DALLAL

LOWER taxes, speed trains, no capital-gains tax, and cheaper real estate are the focus of Likud Chairman Binyamin Netanyahu's economic plan, which was revealed to a group of businessmen in Tel Aviv this week.

Promising to have Israel join the world's richest countries, Netanyahu said that if he and his party are elected, "the biggest surprise would come from what we will do in the economy."

Netanyahu plans to cut income tax and encourage investment by reducing government interference. Israel's growth rate - more than 6 percent on average in each of the past five years - is too low, and the current per capita production of \$15,000 is half of what it should be, he added.

The head of the Likud attacked the government for neglecting the deficit problem and for allocating NIS 6 billion to the kibbutz debt write-off arrangement, NIS 1.8b. to the bailout of the Histadrut-owned Clalit health fund, and NIS 1b. in VAT returns and other assistance to the Palestinian Authority.

Within his first 90 days in office, Netanyahu said he would launch a program to cut income tax incrementally over several

years, and he would refrain from imposing a capital gains tax.

Netanyahu promised to eliminate "entire departments" within government ministries, which should ideally be reduced to 10, from the current 20. Ministerial personnel would not be laid off to reach this goal, only hiring should come to a halt.

The Likud chairman added that privatization would be accelerated, although he would not sell Rafael.

According to Netanyahu, the supply of land should be expanded by state property sales, which currently encompass 93% of the country's land. The resulting increase in housing would also necessitate transportation upgrades, especially railway system improvements. Netanyahu promised it would eventually take 15 minutes by train to travel from Safed to Haifa.

Netanyahu dismissed widespread observations that a Likud victory would be bad for business. "Look at Hong Kong, which people knew will return to China, or South Korea or Taiwan, which are far from being at peace with their neighbors, but still have tremendously strong economies," he said.

'Importers should absorb weakened shekel costs'

Dollar soars another 0.7% to NIS 3.28

Jerusalem Post Staff



Shohat: Not afraid of new pay demands by the public sector. (Issac Haraiz)

content with the market's adjustment of its previously over-valued currency, has stuck by its policy of

PRICES of imports should not rise as a result of the shekel's recent depreciation, Finance Minister Avraham Shohat said yesterday. Shohat added he hoped importers would unilaterally absorb the ensuing higher cost of foreign-made goods.

The shekel's plunge against main foreign currencies continued yesterday when it traded as low as 3.295, before settling at 3.284 to the dollar.

Many Israeli exporters, especially in low-tech industries, have been complaining over the past three years that the shekel is over-valued and was therefore hurting sales abroad. Most economists, however, have blamed the country's yawning trade deficit - which exceeded \$121 billion in 1995 - to the government's expansive fiscal policies rather than to the exchange rate.

Speaking on Israel Radio, Shohat said he was not afraid of new pay demands by the public sector, since he was sure the shekel's devaluation would not have a "dramatic" impact on consumer prices. The Bank of Israel, apparently

the past few months by refraining from trade intervention.

Analysts say the central bank is not likely to join the market mayhem as long as the exchange rate remains sufficiently distant from the bank's floating band - which is 7 percent above and below the theoretical diagonal band of a weighted basket of seven leading foreign currencies.

At its current rate, the shekel is still 1.5% beneath the so-called middle line, which is 8.8% lower than the point which would require central bank intervention.

The shekel's accelerated depreciation has come following widespread expectations that after the elections the new government would slash the budget by NIS 4 billion, a move which would allow the Bank of Israel to reduce rates and indirectly devalue the shekel.

The market's behavior is, therefore, largely aimed at bracing for macro-economic developments which might not take place, ultimately leading to a renewed wave of dollar selling and shekel appreciation, commented Nehemia Strasser in yesterday's *Ha'aretz*.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Tourism Ministry plans to invest NIS 40m. in the North: The Tourism Ministry has prepared a long-term plan calling for NIS 40 million to be invested in tourism projects in the North, director-general Eli Gonen said yesterday.

He was speaking at a conference of representatives of the country's major works committees to encourage more local tourists to visit the area. Gonen added the ministry is currently spearheading a \$500,000 marketing program.

In a related development, American Express announced yesterday it is initiating a campaign, "Express to the North," to encourage credit card holders to visit Upper and Western Galilee between now and mid-July. It is offering a choice of seven day and half-day discounted excursions to various attractions and accommodation sites. *Haim Shapiro*

Discount economists: '96 inflation may reach 12.5%

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

BANK Discount's economists are forecasting 12 percent to 12.5% inflation this year, up from last year's 8.1%, according to an economic survey published yesterday. At the start of the year, commercial banks predicted an inflation rate of 8%-10% and Discount had predicted an annual rate of 11% in March.

A bank spokesman said the forecast takes into account the dollar's recent surge against the shekel.

The consumer price index increased by 14% during this year's first quarter. The economists said part of the rise was due to a renewed increase in housing prices, which had remained relatively stable until the end of last year.

According to the economists, single-digit inflation will not be achieved in 1996 as long as the means of payments growth stays at 20 percent per year. In April, the means of payment increased by 1.5%-2%.

The bank said the public's inflationary expectations for next year have continuously risen in recent months, reaching 12% in April.

The economists said it is reasonable to assume that the Bank of

Israel will raise its lending rate unless there is a drop in inflationary expectations and a decrease in the means of payment growth. They expressed doubt that interest rates will drop since it would require a significant budget deficit cut.

According to the report, a NIS 2 billion-NIS 3b. cut in the budget deficit is necessary due to changes in macroeconomic factors. It stressed that the cut should be made in public consumption as opposed to an increase in government tax receipts. In addition, the targeted budget deficit for 1997 should not rise above 1.75% of the Gross Domestic Product.

Bank Hapoalim, which also published an economic report yesterday, said the government's large expenses resulting from events in the North will make it very difficult to reduce the deficit since there are very few reserves in this year's budget.

Hapoalim economists emphasized that tourism suffered the most from the recent events. Based on optimistic forecasts, the sector will grow by 3%-5% this year, but based on pessimistic predictions, it will experience a real drop in the growth rate.

Vishay, Eisenberg join up to develop Chinese metals

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

ELECTRONIC components manufacturer Vishay Intertechnology and the Eisenberg Group will invest at least \$40 million in developing China's tantalum industry, Vishay Chairman and CEO Dr. Felix Zandman said yesterday.

Tantalum is a rare gray-white metal highly resistant to heat and acids.

The companies announced that a partnership formed by Vishay, which is listed on the New York Stock Exchange, and the Eisenberg Group, which is controlled by Shaul Eisenberg, has signed a cooperation

agreement with the state-owned China National Non-Ferrous Metals Industry Corp.

According to the agreement, the companies will develop the tantalum industry in China, including the mining and refining of tantalum ore and the production of tantalum capacitors in China through several joint ventures.

Zandman said the companies are finishing the definitive terms of the pact, which involves a separate joint venture for each

aspect of the project. Vishay will operate and manage the tantalum project.

The chairman said the first goal of the joint venture is to increase significantly the supply of tantalum ore and raw tantalum concentrate by improving an existing tantalum mine in China.

"The final step of this long-term project, which envisions the establishment of a world-class tantalum capacitor manufacturing facility in China, should allow Vi-

shay to continue to expand significantly its presence in China and the Pacific Rim," Zandman said.

The project, when fully operational, will involve the establishment of additional joint ventures to improve the operations of refineries in China and to develop a new facility to manufacture tantalum capacitors there.

He added that he expects the project to have a major effect on Vishay worldwide and especially on Vishay Dimona, which is among the world's leading producers of tantalum capacitors.

Israel Electric חברת חשול

TENDERS

TENDER

The Israel Electric Corporation wishes to purchase the following goods and services:

Tender no.	Description (unrefundable)	Price inc. VAT of tender forms
533102	Pole Mounted Medium Voltage SF6 Outdoor Switches Disconnectors Stage 1 Submission of technical/commercial specifications and samples of the disconnectors, without prices	NIS 1989

Conditions:

- The bidder shall submit, together with his offer, at his own expense and responsibility, to the Israel Electric Corporation, a sample of each required switch and one sample of an already assembled switch, as required by the bidder.
- The bidder shall submit, together with his offer, a guarantee for providing service by a service company, for the SF6 switches, for a period of 12 months after the delivery of the SF6 switches. The service company shall have the required spare parts and warranty period for the SF6 switches shall be given by the service company in Israel.
- The bidder shall have at least three years' experience in manufacturing the proposed SF6 switches.
- The bidder's quality control program must meet ISO 9001 requirements.
- The bidder shall have a minimum of three years' experience in manufacturing the proposed SF6 switches. The bidder must also have a minimum of three years' experience in quality control program, including the manufacturing process and quality control program, meeting the requirements of the ISO 9001 requirements.
- For complete I.E.C. requirements, see I.E.C. specification 75-5, which will be attached to the bid documents.
- The Israel Electric Corporation reserves the right to allow or disallow the submission of the documents, permits, licenses or certifications as required by the bidder, to submit the missing documents to the Israel Electric Corporation within a certain period of time to be determined by the Corporation.

Last day for submitting offers: June 16, 1996 at 11 a.m.

The tender documents may be obtained from the Import Department, 11 Sderot P.O. Box, Haifa, on Sunday, May 13, 1996, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, against a payment slip showing that payment has been made into the Israel Electric Corporation's account at any branch of the Postal Bank (payment will not be returned). Payment slips may be requested by phone from Dafna Burger at the above address (Tel. 04-8615190).

The tender documents may be perused before purchase at the offices of the Import department at the above address.

Bids must be placed in a sealed envelope and should be put in tenders box no. 2 in the Pal-Yam building in Haifa (address as above), by the last day for submitting bids as stated above.

No undertaking is given to accept the lowest or any bid.

NOTE: In appropriate cases, the Corporation will give preference to suppliers in accordance with the Tenders Regulations (Preference for Locally Produced Goods, and Obligation to Extend Commercial Cooperation.)

Similarly, the Israel Electric Corporation reserves the right to enter into negotiations when this is legally permissible.

Mizrahi reps off to Europe despite sanctions

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

A DELEGATION of United Mizrahi Bank representatives embarked on a road show to Europe yesterday following pressure by Finance Minister Avraham Shohat to go ahead with the bank's share issue by the end of the month.

The delegation was initially scheduled to go to Europe on Sunday, but the trip was temporarily postponed Sunday due to the escalation of work sanctions by Mizrahi employees.

The government's original intention was to issue in May 20 percent of UMB's shares to investors here and abroad, with 60% of them allocated to European institutional investors.

On Monday, Shohat met with Meir Yacobson, general manager of MI Holdings, the government's privatization company, and instructed him to go ahead with the issue before month's end.

The delegation will promote the bank before institutional investors in London, Scotland, and Switzerland.

Meanwhile, UMB workers continued work sanctions to protest management's decision to fire more than 200 workers as well as the firm's failure to improve its 1995 wage agreement proposal.

Head of UMB's workers committee Sara Leiserovitz said workers will close today the bank's Jerusalem branches and the administration division.

Leiserovitz said the workers committee rejected management's proposal to sign a wage agreement giving employees a 2.5% rise in wages. She said workers at other banks received a 5%-6% wage rise last year.

Alex Brown, Giza expect big year together

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

US investment banking firm Alex Brown and the local Giza Investment company hope to undertake two to three initial public offerings (IPOs) and several merger and acquisition transactions for local companies during the next 12 months. Alex Brown chairman and chief executive officer Buzzy Krongard said yesterday.

Krongard said the joint company intends to focus primarily on technology, health-care, media, and communications industries. The chairman said Alex Brown representatives have already visited about 30 companies - including large firms like Elbit, Elscint, and Teva - which may require their services.

Alex Brown was the number one-ranked underwriter of venture-backed IPOs in the US last year. The firm's whose clients include Scitex and ECI Telecom, completed 64 public offerings.

Krongard said the group's decision to increase its presence here, which began five years ago, is primarily due to the availability of brainpower.

"More and more Israeli companies are now achieving a certain size that makes them attractive to us," he said. "We see more commercial adaptations to technologies and many more companies that have matured beautifully. We have found that Israeli venture capital firms portfolios are full of good opportunities."

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS				
Patish (foreign currency deposit rates) (8.5.96)				
Currency (deposit term)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS	
U.S. dollar (\$20,000)	4.25	4.20	4.20	4.20
Pound sterling (£100,000)	4.25	4.20	4.20	4.20
German mark (DM 200,000)	1.750	1.750	1.750	1.750
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.500
Yen (¥ 10 million year)				

(Please vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (7.5.96)					
Currency basket	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS		BANKNOTES		Rep. Rates**
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	
U.S. dollar	3.8327	3.8913	3.19	3.26	3.8999
U.S. dollar (\$20,000)	3.2498	3.3083	3.19	3.26	3.2940
German mark	2.1919	2.1693	2.09	2.20	2.1534
Pound sterling	4.9046	4.8857	4.82	5.08	4.8558
French franc	0.8325	0.8447	0.61	0.65	0.8372
Japanese yen (¥100)	3.5972	3.1472	3.04	3.30	3.1982
Dutch guilder	1.9084	1.8392	1.87	1.97	1.8275
Swiss franc	2.8188	2.8355	2.58	2.70	2.8408
Spanish peseta	0.4781	0.4838	0.48	0.50	0.4819
Norwegian krone	0.4857	0.5037	0.48	0.52	0.5007
Denmark krone	0.5298	0.5915	0.54	0.57	0.5582
Portugal mark	0.5759	0.5892	0.68	0.70	0.6749
Canadian dollar	2.2811	2.4198	2.34	2.46	2.4045
Australian dollar	2.5848	2.5367	2.25	2.28	2.2921
S. African rand	0.7368	0.7335	0.67	0.78	0.7459
Belgian franc (F)	1.0365	1.0344	1.01	1.07	1.0477
Austrian schilling (S)	3.0291	3.0780	2.97	3.13	3.0809
Italian lire (L100)	2.0981	2.1198	2.25	2.15	2.1098
Jordanian dinar	—	—	4.82	4.82	4.715
Egyptian pound (E)	—	—	0.92	1.00	1.8845
Israeli sheqel	4.0248	4.0682	4.89	5.24	4.0482
Irish punt	2.5595	2.6008	2.61	2.84	2.5304
Spanish peseta (100)	—	—	—	—	2.5870

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.
SOURCE: BANK LEUM

Scitex Corporation Ltd.

Notice of Annual General Meeting of Shareholders

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders of Scitex Corporation Ltd. will be held at the office of the Company, Harnead Street, Industrial Park, Herzliya B, Israel, on Thursday, May 16, 1996 at 11:00 a.m.

Shareholders of record at the close of business on April 8, 1996, are entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the meeting and notices, proxy solicitation material and forms of proxy have been mailed to such shareholders.

Shareholders who are interested in further information should contact David Shulman, the Corporate Secretary of the Company, Tel: 09-5873334.

Herzliya, Israel, May 8, 1996

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- Opening on June 14, 1996 at the Colony Hotel (Mandarin).
- Open Seminar, at the Colony Hotel (Mandarin), Friday, May 17, at 10 a.m.

For further information please call 09-510835

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כנסים ומופעים

Key Representative Rates
US dollar - NIS 3.2840 +0.70%
Sterling - NIS 4.9556 +0.79%
Mark - NIS 2.1534 +0.71%

INTEL STOCK MARKETS
New York market indexes
DJ Industrial 1187.21 -13.80
DJ Transport 1187.21 -13.80
DJ Comp 1187.21 -13.80

Other stock market indexes
FTSE 100 3729.28 -28.8
Nikkei 225 19872.0 -102.0
Hang Seng 10762.0 -44.0

Israeli stocks in NY
NYSE / AMEX
Anix 3.25 -0.05
Apt 0.40 -0.02
Apt Technology 0.40 -0.02

INTEL MONEY MARKETS
Dollar cross-rates (US)
Pound 1.6660 -0.0010
DM 1.7000 -0.0005

Libor rates
3 months 5.25%
6 months 5.50%
9 months 5.75%
12 months 6.00%

Foreign financial data courtesy of CommStock Trading Ltd.
Futures, Options, Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds

INTEL COMMODITIES AND METALS
US commodities
Cocoa (May) 122.00 -0.25
Coffee (May) 127.50 +1.45

London commodities
Cocoa (May) 122.00 -0.25
Coffee (May) 127.50 +1.45

Spot market metals (US)
Gold 368.50 -0.25
Silver 5.42 -0.01
Platinum 131.00 -0.25

New York metal futures
Gold (May) 368.50 -0.25
Silver (May) 5.42 -0.01
Platinum (May) 131.00 -0.25

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading
Commercial Banks
Bank Leumi 140.50 1.1
Bank Hapoalim 170.00 0.3
Bank Mizrahi 150.00 0.2

ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES

NEW YORK
Alcoa 49.75 +0.25
Amp 1.25 -0.05
Amp Energy 1.25 -0.05
Amp Paper 1.25 -0.05

Market remains steady despite weaker shekel

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET
FELICE MARANZ
204.34 -0.05%
214.93 +0.14%

STOCK indexes closed little changed yesterday as optimism that a weakening shekel will add to exporter's profits offset concern that the weakening currency will prompt rising inflation.

There is concern in the market about the dollar, interest rates, and inflation," said David Rosenberg, head of research at Pacific Mediterranean. "The market wanted a devaluation, but maybe not as much of one as it's getting."

UK shares follow Wall St. drop

LONDON (Reuters) - British shares yesterday fell to their lowest level since early April as Wall Street continued its recent weak trend and London equities sought direction following a long weekend holiday, dealers and fund managers said.

Dow reaches lowest level in three months

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Blue-chip stocks were rocked by another wave of selling yesterday that drove the Dow Jones industrial average to its lowest level in more than three months as investors shifted to Treasury bonds to take advantage of the jump in their long-term yield.

CURRENCY CROSS-RATES

MARK STERLING YEN SFY FFY
STERLING 2.3054/44 - 158.780N 0.8162/85 3.7781/88
YEN 1.4495/13 0.8291/00 - 1.1832/50 4.8695/95

ELECTION

(Continued from Page 1) of video clips with statements made by Netanyahu and other Likud leaders, and of demonstrations reflecting the incitement and violence prevalent before Rabin's assassination and the attempts to delegitimize the government.

Blackhawks in OT win

CHICAGO (AP) - Sergei Krivokrasov, shifted to the top line after Tony Amonte suffered a third-period injury, scored 46 seconds into overtime Monday night to lift the Chicago Blackhawks to a 4-3 victory over the Colorado Avalanche.

It was the second overtime win of the series for Chicago, which trailed 3-1 late in the second period before getting goals by Joe Murphy and Jeremy Roenick.

The Blackhawks, who won the opener 3-2 on Roenick's overtime goal, can take the best-of-7 NHL series with victories in Chicago today and at Colorado on Saturday.

Eric Daze came up with a loose puck in Colorado ice and passed into the right faceoff circle to Krivokrasov, who beat Patrick Roy to the stick side.

Krivokrasov had been skating on the fourth line until Amonte, one of Chicago's best players, went out with a leg injury with 8:06 left in regulation.

Second-period goals by Peter Forsberg, Mike Ricci and Joe Sakic put Colorado in control before Murphy scored on a controversial play with 36.6 seconds left in the period.

Murphy wristed a shot past Roy, who was screened by Murray Craven. The upset goalie argued with referee Terry Gregson that the score should have been disallowed because Craven was in the goal crease. Though television replays confirmed that Roy was correct, the play is not reviewable under NHL rules and the goal stood.

Craven, who missed Chicago's 5-1 loss with food poisoning, also

figured prominently in the tying goal at 6:48 of the third period. He outworked Adam Foote and Sakic along the boards and got the puck to Roenick, who went in on a breakaway and beat Roy.

The Blackhawks got a boost from the return of goalie Ed Belfour, who also missed Game 2 with food poisoning. Belfour made 18 saves but barely survived the second period, when his teammates' mistakes made his job difficult.

Chris Chelios' turnover set up Forsberg's goal and Enrico Ciccone's giveaway enabled Ricci to score. A charging penalty by Bob Probert resulted in Sakic's power-play goal for the Avalanche's 3-1 lead.

Forsberg's goal was incredible in that he scored with just one hand on his stick. Checked hard from the left side by Craven, Forsberg was only able to stick-handle with his right hand. He nonetheless managed to flip a shot over Belfour's glove and into the top of the net.

Sakic's goal was his league-high 10th of the playoffs.

NHL Playoffs
Conference Semifinals
MONDAY'S RESULTS
Chicago 4, Colorado 3 (OT)
(Chicago leads series 2-1)
LAST NIGHT:
Pittsburgh at NY Rangers (Series tied 1-1)
Philadelphia at Florida (Series tied 1-1)
TODAY:
Detroit at St. Louis (Detroit leads series 2-0)
Colorado at Chicago
TOMORROW
Pittsburgh at NY Rangers
Philadelphia at Florida

English soccer promotion playoffs

Sunday, May 12 (First Leg):
Division One
Charlton vs Crystal Palace
Leicester vs Stoke
Division Two
Bradford vs Blackpool
Crewe vs Notts County
Division Three
Colchester vs Plymouth
Hereford vs Darlington
Wed May 15 (Second leg)

Final (Saturday, May 25):
Division Three
(Winner promoted to Division Two)
Sunday, May 26
Division Two
(Winner to Division One)
Monday, May 27
Division One
(Winner to Premier League)

Sonics go 2-up over Rockets, set 3-point playoff mark

SEATTLE (AP) - The Seattle Supersonics hit a playoff-record 20 3-pointers, including 13 in a row, to beat the Houston Rockets 105-101 Monday night and take a commanding 2-0 series lead over the two-time defending NBA champions.

It was Seattle's 11th consecutive victory over the Rockets, including six this season.

The teams combined for 33 3-pointers, also a playoff record.

Detlef Schrempf led the Sonics with 21 points and Gary Payton, selected the league's Defensive Player of the Year earlier in the day, had 18 points and made a key steal from Hakeem Olajuwon in the closing seconds.

Clyde Drexler scored 19 points for Houston. Olajuwon held to six points in Seattle's 33-point victory in Game 1, had 17 points and 16 rebounds.

Payton knocked the ball loose from Olajuwon in the corner with 10.1 seconds left after the Houston center rebounded Mario Elie's missed 3-pointer with the Rockets trailing by two.

Shawn Kemp got the ball and was fouled by Olajuwon. Kemp then made two free throws to seal Seattle's win.

"I knew Hakeem was going to get the ball and try to do something," Payton said of his crucial steal. "I stuck my hand in there and knocked it loose. Fortunately, Shawn was able to pick it up."

Games 3 and 4 will be played in Houston on Friday night and Sunday.

Seattle made 20 of 27 3-pointers (74 percent), while the Rockets were 13 of 37 from behind the arc (48%).

The Sonics broke Houston's playoff record of 19 3-pointers, set against Utah on April 29, 1995. Houston and Utah combined for 28 3s in that game.

Nate McMillan, who was 5-for-5 from long range, said 3-point shooting has become an important part of Seattle's offense.

"Teams have been double-teaming us big-time," he said. "So when our big guys get it down in the post, they kick it outside for the 3."

In the final quarter, Seattle made five 3-pointers, including one by



OVERDRIVE - Seattle's Shawn Kemp bowls over Hakeem Olajuwon en route to a layup.

Sam Perkins that gave the Sonics a 103-99 lead with 2:11 left.

Elie cut it to 103-101 with a driving layup with 1:51 remaining, but those were Houston's final points.

Trailing 88-82 early in the fourth quarter, Seattle went on 15-2 run for a 97-90 lead with 5:18 left. Hersey Hawkins sank two 3-pointers and Payton one in the run. When Payton hit a long shot

with 28 seconds left in the third quarter, it was Seattle's 13th consecutive 3-pointer. Drexler's two free throws with 15 seconds left in the period gave Houston an 82-80 lead.

At the start of the fourth quarter, Schrempf and Perkins missed 3-point attempts.

The teams had a combined streak of 17 consecutive 3-pointers made before Smith missed one with 1:24 left in the third quarter.

The Sonics made all seven 3-pointers they took in the second quarter, the first three by McMillan and two by Frank Brickowski, to stay close although Kemp and Payton each picked up their third fouls in the period.

Olajuwon's 17-footer with 0.6 seconds left in the second quarter gave the Rockets a 51-49 halftime lead.

With 3:53 remaining in the half, Mark Bryant fouled Payton after the Sonics guard missed a left-handed layup. Payton then fell awkwardly to the floor and Bryant fell on top of him, stunning Payton momentarily.

In a cold-shooting first quarter, Seattle took a 22-19 lead when McMillan grabbed a rebound, drove down the court and sank a 3-pointer with 1.7 seconds left. The Sonics didn't miss another 3-point try until their first try of the fourth quarter.

The Rockets scored seven straight points, including Olajuwon's only basket of the first quarter, for a 17-10 advantage with five minutes left. In the final 2:55 of the opening quarter, Seattle outscored Houston 12-2 in a run that began with a 3-pointer by Perkins. The Rockets were only 1-for-11 during that Sonics' spurt.

NBA Playoffs
Conference Semifinals
MONDAY'S RESULT:
Seattle 105, Houston 101
(Seattle leads series 2-0)
LAST NIGHT:
Utah at San Antonio
New York at Chicago
(Chicago leads series 1-0)
TODAY:
Atlanta at Orlando

Israel youth meets France in soccer semifinal

ORI LEWIS

ALL Israeli sporting eyes will be focused on Vienna this morning as the national under-16 soccer side prepares to do battle in the semifinals of the European Championships with France.

The second semifinal pits Portugal and Greece.

The Israelis gained an unprecedented result by reaching the penultimate stage of the competition when they sensationally upset Germany in the quarter-finals on Sunday. They came back from a two-goal deficit in the final minute to force sudden-death extra time and then beat the favored German side.

The French, who are considered to be one of the two top sides in Europe together with Portugal, looked by far the better side in their quarter-final match with Ireland. But they were unable to force a result, missing several chances in the process, and had to rely on a penalty shootout which they won 5-4.

The match will be screened live on Channel 1 today beginning at 11:30 am, with live commentary also on IBA Radio 2.

Hapoel Kiryat Shmona returned to action with a win in the Second Division yesterday, overcoming Maccabi Kiryat Gat 2-0 in one of two outstanding matches which were held over due to Operation Grapes of Wrath.

The northern team was watched by some 500 spectators as it began its return to action and it will fall back into line with the rest of the division when it plays its other postponed game, away to Maccabi Yavne next Tuesday.

Bulls' Jackson top NBA coach

NEW YORK (AP) - Phil Jackson of the Chicago Bulls was selected as the NBA Coach of the Year yesterday.

Jackson, who coached the Bulls to a record 72 victories during the regular season, received 82 out of a possible 113 votes from a panel of sports writers and broadcasters.

Mike Fratello of the Cleveland Cavaliers finished second with 22 votes. Six coaches received at least one vote for this season's award, including Detroit's Doug Collins (three), San Antonio's Bob Hill (three), Houston's Rudy Tomjanovich (two) and Atlanta's Lenny Wilkens (one).

Del Harris of the Los Angeles Lakers won the Coach of the Year award last year.

Jackson, in his seventh season with Chicago, also led the Bulls to NBA records for most consecutive home victories (44) and most consecutive home wins to start a season (37). Chicago ranked first in the NBA in scoring with 105.2 points per game and was first in point differential at plus 12.2.

Jackson will receive the Red Auerbach Trophy, named for the former coach and president of the Boston Celtics, who won nine NBA titles between the 1956-57 and 1966-67 seasons.

The last Bulls coach to win the honor was Dick Motta in 1971.

Ran loses at Eisenberg

ORI LEWIS

ISRAELI interest is down to the bare minimum at the \$50,000 Eisenberg Jerusalem Open tennis tournament after the loss of Eyal Ran yesterday.

The Israeli No. 1 was up against Leander Paes of India but was not equal to the task of overcoming the second seed as he went down 4-6, 6-3, 6-4.

Paes today meets another Israeli, Ofer Sela, a qualifier who advanced to the second round on Monday.

Top-seeded Chris Wilkinson of Britain had a scare in his match against wildcard Lior Mor, as the Israeli appeared to be cruising to a major upset victory when he led 4-1 in the final set. But the occasion got the better of him and the young Israeli hopeful went down 2-6, 6-3, 7-5 after a great start.

Another local success was Nir Weigreen who enjoyed a 6-4, 6-3 win over Pablo Campana of Ecuador.

In an upset result, third-seeded Stéphane Simian of France was ousted by Chris Haggard of South Africa in two sets, 6-4, 6-2.

Play resumes today at 1 pm at the ITC courts in the capital with second-round matches. Sela meets Paes in the first match on the stadium court, followed by local Amir Hadez taking on Alejandro Hernandez of Mexico.

Knoblauch breaks finger, avoids disabled list

SEATTLE (AP) - Chuck Knoblauch will miss the next few games because of a fractured finger. But the Minnesota Twins second baseman will avoid the disabled list.

The 1991 AL Rookie of the Year injured the middle finger on his left hand Sunday while reaching for a pitch during a game against California. He returned to Minneapolis to have the fracture treated and rejoined the team Monday night in Seattle.

Knoblauch is bating .339 with 13 RBIs and five stolen bases.

MONDAY'S AL RESULTS:
New York 10, Detroit 5
Seattle 5, Minnesota 4
Oakland 5, Cleveland 3
Kansas City 9, California 4

MONDAY'S NL RESULTS:
Los Angeles 8, Pittsburgh 4
Florida 4, New York 1
Montreal 6, Chicago 2
Houston 11, Philadelphia 5
Atlanta 4, Colorado 1

Joseph Hoffman, Sports Editor

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אפיקים 1996

MDA opens emergency blood drive

JUDY SIEGEL

FACING a "severe shortage" of all types of blood, Magen David Adom yesterday urged potential donors "not to wait for a terror attack to give blood." During the wave of terror attacks two months ago, would-be blood donors waited for hours at MDA stations, but their enthusiasm has dwindled in recent weeks.

O+ and Rh blood are the most needed, but the supplies of all types are low, MDA said. The shortage has already caused delays in the supply of blood to hospitals, which may cause the postponement of operations and force hospitals to dip into emergency supplies.

MDA opened a national blood campaign yesterday which will continue through Friday. Its branches in the three main cities and the National Blood Center at Tel Hashomer will be open from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. today and tomorrow,

and from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Friday. Blood may be donated in most other MDA stations from 5 to 9 p.m. through Thursday, and on Friday from 8 to 1. More details can be obtained by calling the toll-free number, 177-022-5911.

Meanwhile, MDA president Prof. David Barzilai yesterday received from the King and Queen of Spain an award for excellence for MDA's humanitarian services. At a ceremony in Huasca in the Pyrenees, Barzilai accepted the citation from King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia. The same award was also presented to Dr. Fathi Arafat, head of the Palestinian Red Crescent Society.

The idea to award the prizes came from the Red Cross Society of Spain, with which MDA has had very friendly ties in recent years and whose president, Juan Manuel Suarez Dez Toro, is Barzilai's official host.



Three-year-old Yisrael Paniri has his locks cut by his father and family as they celebrate Lag Ba'omer at the tomb of Shimon Hatzadik in Jerusalem yesterday. (Brian Hender)

WEATHER

Jerusalem	15-20
Tel Aviv	18-25
Haifa	18-27
Beersheva	16-21
Dead Sea	25-37
Galilee	18-23
Samaria	18-20
Alula	17-21
Tiberias	20-23
Golden	18-22
Eilat	23-30

Forecast: Hot and dry.

AROUND THE WORLD

City	C	F	C	F
Amsterdam	08	47	08	47
Berlin	09	48	09	48
London	10	50	10	50
Paris	11	52	11	52
Rome	12	54	12	54
Moscow	13	55	13	55
Stockholm	14	57	14	57
Helsinki	15	59	15	59
Oslo	16	61	16	61
Warsaw	17	63	17	63
Prague	18	65	18	65
Brno	19	67	19	67
Vienna	20	68	20	68
Budapest	21	70	21	70
Belgrade	22	72	22	72
Sofia	23	73	23	73
Thessalonica	24	75	24	75
Istanbul	25	77	25	77
Antwerp	26	79	26	79
Brussels	27	81	27	81
Frankfurt	28	82	28	82
Munich	29	84	29	84
Zurich	30	86	30	86

Special low-fat eggs to be produced here

JUDY SIEGEL

A PATENTED diet for chickens which leads them to produce eggs that are claimed to significantly "help reduce the level" of dangerous fats and raise the level of beneficial lipoprotein in the blood is now being used here. The eggs, produced at Ramat Hashavim near Herzliya, will soon be available in supermarkets for double the price of ordinary eggs.

However, the Health Ministry's food service division demanded that it immediately stop making medical claims for a food product. If the company does not observe the law, division head Dr. Brian Coussin said, it would be taken to court and fined. Uri Sadot of Ramat Hashavim countered that the company had consulted closely with food service division officials who "authorized" the marketing campaign.

Called Beitzim + Plus, the eggs have been tested by Prof. Zecharya Madar, a leading nutrition expert at the Hebrew University's agriculture faculty in Rehovot. The special diet was developed over the past 12 years by Prof. Jeonge Sim of the University of Alberta in Canada's department of animal sciences. The lower LDL (low-density

lipoprotein, or harmful fat in the blood), high HDL (high-density lipoprotein, or the beneficial kind) egg is already on sale in North America, the Far East, and elsewhere. The chickens are fed an exact recipe of canola, soya, and other grains instead of the conventional diet of wheat, corn, and soya.

Madar served as an adviser for the El Al company on Ramot Hashavim, which has been involved in poultry farming for decades.

Madar said he coordinated double-blind tests on Beitzim + Plus eggs and conventional eggs and found that the Ramat Hashavim product had 19 times the amount of Omega 3, a beneficial fatty acid, as conventional eggs.

Dr. Dov Gavish, of the lipid unit in Jerusalem's Kupat Holim Meuhedet, conducted clinical studies on healthy people. Given one or two of the special eggs each day for a month, their cholesterol level remained stable, their LDL level dropped by 10%, and their HDL rose significantly. Those who ate regular eggs showed a rise in cholesterol and in their LDL. People suffering from heart disease were not tested.

Zeif: Illegal sports betting scam believed worth NIS 100 million

RAINE MARCUS

SUMS invested in illegal sports betting reached nearly NIS 100 million and not NIS 40m. as previously believed by police, Customs and VAT director Arye Zeif said yesterday.

Tax and customs and VAT authorities met yesterday with the National Crimes Squad to assess the situation 10 days after the arrest of four alleged leaders of the betting operation. Several soccer and basketball players have been questioned under caution to determine if they had bet on matches.

"According to computer diskettes and other records seized by police during raids on the

betting organization's leaders nearly two weeks ago, we thought the amounts of money involved were around NIS 40m.," said Zeif, following a meeting at the National Crimes Squad headquarters in Petah Tikva. "Now we believe the sums are closer to NIS 100m."

Zeif confirmed that so far there is no proof that sportsmen were involved in "fixing" match results.

Sources said that if there is proof gamblers won large sums of money, tax authorities will

demand their cut. Gambling and betting is a misdemeanor in Israel, and offenders are usually fined by the courts.

Yesterday, Adi Gordon, a basketball player for Hapoel Jerusalem and the national team was summoned for questioning in Petah Tikva. He denied betting and knowing anyone who has bet on results of sports events.

"I am not angry at being summoned for questioning," Gordon said after the investigation. "The authorities are just doing their job, and illegal betting on matches is a negative phenomenon which should be stamped out. If I can help out then that's fine by me."

Prisons Service continues crackdown on Meshulam followers

RAINE MARCUS

THE Prisons Service yesterday transferred another of Uzi Meshulam's followers out of Ramle's Ayalon Prison, as part of its crackdown on the group.

Avner Uzan was moved to Shatta Prison in an effort to end the group's hunger strike. On Monday, three other Meshulam followers, who are awaiting trial on attempted murder charges, were moved out, and members of the group were put in solitary confinement at their own request.

The group has been on a week-long hunger strike, but, a senior police source said, Meshulam himself has been eating. Now that Meshulam and his followers are in solitary confinement, the source added, the authorities will

make sure that Meshulam does not eat in secret while ordering his followers to starve.

"Meshulam has found the perfect weapon - go on a hunger strike every time he objects to normal prison rules," said the source. "And the authorities obviously cannot allow Jews to die in prison, so sometimes it is easier to give in to the group's wishes."

Three weeks ago, a High Court justice issued an order to force-feed one of the group whose life was in danger. But the prisoner started to eat on his own.

If the group continues to disregard prison regulations, the Prisons Service will continue to disperse them, police officials said.

Factories in North are waiting for compensation payments

DAVID RUDGE

FACTORIES which were closed for the duration of Operation Grapes of Wrath are waiting for the compensation payments the government promised them in order to pay their workers' salaries, Yossi Antverg, chairman of the Manufacturers Association in Haifa and the north, said yesterday.

He said 100 industrial concerns in confrontation line communities had submitted compensation claims totaling NIS 61 million to cover wages of employees who were unable to work because of the Katyusha rocket attacks.

"There are those among these factories whose situation was not very good in the first place and they are unable to cope with this added burden being placed upon them," Antverg said.

"I know of some factories which have informed workers that they will have to defer payment of salaries until compensation is received," he said.

Antverg said he expected the government - and the Treasury in particular - to reimburse industries for direct damage caused by the fighting. He stressed, however, that covering the cost of salaries was only the tip of the iceberg in terms of the overall damage resulting from the factories being closed for 18 days.

"The indirect damage in terms of lost production and losing clients because factories were unable to meet orders on schedule has yet to be assessed and this is likely to run into tens of millions of shekels," Antverg said.

He maintained that no criteria had yet been established for assessing and compensating manufacturers for this indirect damage, despite appeals by the association in the wake of the 1993 Operation Accountability.

Clalit workers plan strike

JUDY SIEGEL

KUPAT Holim Clalit clinics and hospitals will operate on a reduced weekend schedule from this morning until Friday morning if workers carry out their threat of a 48-hour warning strike to protest pension conditions.

Union officials were meeting late last night with Histadrut Chairman Amir Peretz in an effort to head off the crippling strike.

The union demands that the Treasury keep its "promise" to approve the decision of the

Histadrut's Central Pension Fund to calculate pension rights according to wages during the last three years of work and not an average of all paychecks over a worker's career.

A strike would encompass 30,000 workers, and cause the postponement of non-emergency operations, the closing of outpatient clinics and a serious reduction of staff on the wards. Community clinics will work on a Shabbat schedule. Staff of the Amal network of educational institutions will hold a solidarity strike from 8 to 10 a.m. today.

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